

Council under fire for not releasing £250k to help tenants

CHIEFS SITTING ON CASH, CLAIM

Report by Carl Jackson

WALSALL Council is sitting on £250,000 worth of funding support to help people with short-term rent problems, it has been claimed.

Labour Councillor Diane Coughlan said the Tory-run Walsall Council received £687,000 from the Government for 2015/2016 to provided discretionary housing payments (DHP).

But she claimed that as of last week the council still had around a quarter of a million pounds sitting in the bank despite the end of the financial year fast approaching.

Councillor Coughlan added: "I think it is appalling we have not spent this money."

"When I was portfolio holder I made it a priority that we provided this support to people and we actually overspent by £19,000 for the year."

"Ever since the Government introduced the bedroom tax they have provided this money to help people who are evicted because of the welfare reforms."

"The money is supposed to stop them being evicted and help them through the process."

Vicious

"It is all paid out of a discretionary fund. "I raised the issue with council last Friday as to why we haven't spent it."

It comes as it was revealed last week that more than 100 people had been evicted from Walsall in two years following a rise in rents.

Most housing associations have seen rent arrears since 2014.

Democratic Labour Councillor Pete Smith collated figures that showed between four groups 135 people had been evicted in the period blaming the situation on 'vicious' welfare reforms.

At the time Council Leader Mike Bird vowed to stand 'shoulder to shoulder' with him fighting the issue. But since it has been revealed the council has not spent a huge chunk of its support funding he has been branded 'hypocritical' by Councillor Coughlan.

She added: "This is the Government's way of trying to cushion the impact of their welfare reforms and this administration has failed to help the people of Walsall."

"So for Councillor Smith and Councillor Bird to 'stand shoulder to shoulder together' on the issue I find a little hypocritical, they should be making it their priority to spend this money by pointing their constituents who are facing eviction and hardship towards the DHP fund for help." Walsall Council was not able to respond before going to press.

25-YEAR MILESTONE FOR COUPLE'S TOY STORY



Celebrating 25 years of organising toy fairs at Oak Park Leisure Centre, is Geoff Price and his wife Linda Price, of Walsall Wood

PLANES, trains and automobiles of the miniature variety filled a Walsall leisure centre during an anniversary model and toy fair.

The event in Walsall Wood was celebrating its 25th anniversary as people flocked to Oak Park Leisure Centre on Sunday to view the models which ranged from the superb to the ridiculous.

Hundreds of people turned up for the long-running event is organised by Walsall man Geoff Price and his wife Linda.

Geoff also organises the Classic Car and Transport Show which is held annually at Walsall Arboretum.

He is a keen collector of model vehicles himself, boasting a collection of more than 13,000 miniature trams and buses which he has built up over more than 50 years.

He is in the Guinness Book of Records for his hobby. The first model in his collection was a Dinky Half Cab Coach, bought as a birthday present by his parents in 1958, and

since then he has gone on to add thousands more, some dating back to 1905.

As well as the usual model enthusiasts, Walsall's mayor councillor Angela Underhill also attended the anniversary event in Walsall Wood.

She found herself preoccupied with a blue model Walsall trolleybus.

Collectors at the event could pick up models for as cheap as 50p, while others ranged into the hundreds of pounds.

PROTEST

Petition on tax office handed in by MP Vaz

A PETITION against the closure of a tax office in Walsall has been presented by a town MP. HM Revenue & Customs plans to close the Pattison House office this year as part of cuts to its budgets.

Staff will transfer to other offices in the region – but unions fear job cuts. The petition handed in by Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz was signed by more than 500 people. The Public and Commercial and Services Union set up the petition just a week ago.

Around 90 per cent of the workers based at the office are believed to be female.

PLANNING

Homes set to bring in £50,000 bonus

PLANS to build 37 new homes in Bentley have been rubber-stamped by Walsall Council, which expects to receive around £50,000 in a new homes bonus from the scheme.

Development officers had recommended the scheme, earmarked for land at Wilkes Avenue, be approved and now the planning committee has given its seal of approval. The land is vacant after a council-run care home was demolished.

All of the new properties will be allocated for affordable housing.

EMERGENCY

Man injures hand as car flips over in crash

A MAN escaped with just a hand injury when his car flipped over in Walsall. The Peugeot landed on its side in Delves Road on Monday near to the University of Wolverhampton campus in the town.

The man was treated for a hand injury at the scene and discharged without requiring hospital treatment. The accident caused traffic problems as emergency services and local authorities worked to clear the car and the debris.

Ambulance spokesman John Hawker, said: "An ambulance and paramedic officer attended the scene. One man, believed to be in his 20's, was treated and didn't go to hospital."

INSIDE

WHITNEY WAY FOR SADDLERS



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Restaurant fined over mice droppings



Little Bengal, Streetly

AN Indian restaurant has been ordered to pay £14,000 over mouse droppings found at the premises.

The Little Bengal on Blackwood Road, Streetly, was temporarily closed by environmental health officers following an inspection last February over fears it posed a serious threat to public health.

During their visit, inspectors also found that a sink for staff to wash their hands in was 'unusable' due to a pile of tea towels, outside bins were over-flowing and Balti dishes were so rusty and

damaged they could no longer be suitably cleaned or disinfected.

Appearing at Walsall Magistrates Court on behalf of the company which runs the restaurant, Boutique Bengal, Shanif Ahmed pleaded guilty to eight food safety and hygiene breaches.

The company was fined £12,000 and made to pay £2,000 in court costs plus a £120 victim surcharge.

Kerry Munro, prosecuting, said: "Officers saw mice droppings littered throughout the premises, amongst a number of hygiene breaches. The floor

in the kitchen area was dirty, greasy and littered with food debris.

"Droppings were found next to containers used for storing vegetables and there had even been carrots that were gnawed at, rendering them unfit for human consumption."

The court heard the restaurant was allowed to open two days later after a major investment towards new equipment. It has since gone on to gain a four star hygiene rating. However, Ahmed said business had suffered since, with bosses considering selling up.

Consultation lack claim on garages rent rise

A COUNCILLOR has criticised a Walsall housing group, claiming it carried out a lack of consultation over plans to raise garage rent prices.

Darlaston south ward councillor Doug James has described the move by Walsall Housing Group a 'simply unacceptable'.

The group is raising its garage rent prices from £6.73 plus VAT per week to £10 and its access way charges from £29.25 to £100 annually.

But Darlaston residents have written to Councillor James over concerns they were not consulted over the increases and have not met with WHG for over six months.

Councillor James said: "WHG is currently undertaking a modernisation of their governance and committee structures. I support their vision for the future.

"However, failing to do the basics, with good liaison, and fair representation for leaseholders is simply unacceptable. Maximising the income from empty garages would surely keep costs down. WHG have work to do to win back the trust of local leasehold orders in Darlaston."

Supplied

He added: "I will be looking into the services charges leaseholders paid while several of their services were not supplied during recent insulation work by a private contractor. Compensation or a service charge credit would seem to be a fair resolution to some very poor management".

WHG director of housing Gary Brookes said: "It is our responsibility to ensure we use all our land and assets to the best benefit of all our tenants. In the current economic climate it is more important than ever that, as an organisation, we make sensible decisions about managing our costs.

"We want to continue to offer a low-cost service and the new charge still represents a favourable discount compared to other providers.

"We are not obliged to consult with residents about the decision to increase our rents for garages, garage plots and access ways. Equally, residents are not obliged to continue renting a garage or plot with us, and can serve notice before the increase comes into effect."

1941 bomb raids memorial unveiled



Percy Humpage with his sister Edna Richards and the memorial at George Rose Park, Darlaston

A PLAQUE commemorating people who lost their lives during bombings in the Black Country in 1941 has been unveiled.

It features 11 names and a short tribute, and is on the pillar of the gates at the entrance to George Rose Park in Darlaston. It cost £1,400 to make, four months to produce and was funded by Walsall Council after being arranged by councillors Chris and Paul Bott.

The fateful raids took place on June 5, 1941 on the Rough Hay

Estate on Lowe Avenue. A homage on the plaque reads: "In memory of those civilians, all residents of Lowe Avenue, who lost their lives on 5th June in the fatal air raid on Darlaston in 1941."

Councillor Paul Bott said he chose George Rose park as those who died in the bombings would certainly have been visitors. He said: "I was born on the Rough Hay estate and for years people have always talked about the bombings. Chris secured the funding for the

plaque and got the names on the plaque and I felt it was a good idea to put the plaque on the pillars of George Rose Park. We would like to thank the Bilston British Legion who provided the standard bearers.

"Last year was 75 years since the Second World War and this memorial was badly needed."

The memorial was unveiled on Saturday morning by Percy Humpage Junior and Edna Richards, whose father Percy Humpage helped rescue people in the raids.

Fears over shortage of affordable properties

THE average cost of renting a two-bed-room-home in the West Midlands over the past five years was £32,000, new figures show.

Homeless charity Shelter revealed the figures as part of research conducted in the region since 2010.

The average number of people paying their landlords in that time period is £32,313 – the same amount needed to put down a 20 per cent deposit on a house in the region for first time buyers.

Campbell Robb, Shelter's Chief Executive, said: "When just five years of rent could get you the deposit on a house, it's no wonder renters in the West Midlands feel like they're getting a raw deal, paying through the nose for something they can never call their own.

"Our drastic shortage of affordable homes is leaving millions of people stuck in their childhood bedrooms in a bid to save money, or in expensive and unstable private renting with little hope of ever saving for a home to put down roots in.

"It doesn't have to be this way," he added.

"The government can turn things around by investing in homes that people on ordinary wages can actually afford to buy, or rent for the long-term."

A breakdown of figures for areas in Staffordshire and the Black Country revealed that Lichfield had the highest average rent price of £34,664.

Meanwhile Cannock Chase was at the bottom end of the table with an average price of £29,176.

Inquest opens on canal death

A WOMAN'S body was found in a canal in Smethwick after clothing became caught in a boat's propeller, an inquest heard.

Shareen Liaqat, aged 20, of Legge Street in West Bromwich, was discovered on January 27.

Detective Inspector James Munro told the opening of an inquest at Smethwick Council House that officers carried out searches of the canal near Smethwick Galton Bridge but had to return the next morning due to darkness making searching difficult.

At 3.26pm, police received a call from a canal worker who had found clothing in the propeller of his boat.

Black Country coroner Mr Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest for a full hearing on April 14.

University backing for Armed Forces

THE University of Wolverhampton is supporting the Armed Forces in Staffordshire by signing up to the Staffordshire Armed Forces' Community Covenant which promotes better understanding and awareness of issues that affect them.

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Urine for a shock after wee wall is put online

YOBS urinating at a derelict car park in Walsall town centre have been shamed with their pictures posted on social media.

A worker based next to the car park of the former M Latif & Sons branch in Bradford Street has shared CCTV images of the culprits on Facebook.

The new social media account, 'urine watch', is regularly posting CCTV images of the public urinators with the apt hashtag 'walsallwee'. Up to 10 images have been posted by the account, featuring a range of males urinating up against a wall which has the word 'welcome' written across it.

According to the Twitter account, the incidents are taking place at the car park off Bradford Street. It has been unused since M Latif & Sons closed its branch next door.

The account was established at the back end of last week and describes itself as 'public urinators on show'.

When contacted, the author of the account said it was getting to a point 'where at least three people' were urinating in the spot on a daily basis. He said: "Walsall Council and police are aware of the problem, but it's getting to a point now where at least three people urinate in public and I've caught two women defecating in the daytime in the car park. Not a pretty sight."

The council claims to have contacted the police, with foot patrols by officers planned.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, the deputy leader of Walsall Council, said: "I'm appalled to hear about this disgusting behaviour. We were only made aware of the problem on Friday."

Woman injured as two cars hit wall

A WOMAN suffered leg and back injuries after two cars were involved in a crash with a wall in Walsall.

The crash left the front of a silver BMW badly crumpled while the other vehicle involved, a silver Mercedes, was also severely dented on the passenger side. The incident happened at around 1.10pm last Thursday at the junction of Field Road and Victoria Avenue in Bloxwich.

A spokesman from West Midlands Fire Service said: "We responded to a 999 call reporting a RTC involving two cars and a brick wall. One female driver was released from a car suffering leg and back injuries. She was taken to hospital by ambulance.

"The other driver, a male, received first aid at the scene. We had two crews there, one from Bloxwich and one from Walsall, 10 firefighters in total."

Tributes as Poundland boss to retire



Poundland CEO Jim McCarthy

The man who turned Poundland into an international success story with £1 billion-a-year sales is to retire.

Jim McCarthy, the former Birmingham newspaper boy who has led the Black Country budget shopping powerhouse for a decade, will leave the company this summer.

His successor will be Kevin O'Byrne, the head of DIY chain B&Q until last year. Mr O'Byrne joins Poundland as chief executive designate on April 4.

Poundland, based at its landmark headquarters beside the Black Coun-

try Route in Willenhall, was founded in 1990 by former market trader Steve Smith. He and his father Keith sold up for £50 million a decade later.

Mr McCarthy, the former head of Sainsbury's convenience stores, was hired by the new owners in 2006. Under his leadership Poundland has grown from 146 stores with sales of £310 million to a business with more than 900 stores in the UK, Ireland and Spain.

Mr McCarthy has overseen Poundland's £55 million takeover of 99p Stores over the last year, while in

2014 he took the company public with its flotation on the London Stock Exchange.

Darren Shapland, Poundland's chairman, said: "Jim has skilfully guided the business from a small private operation in 2006 to the strong and growing business it is today.

"On behalf of the whole company I would like to thank him for the enormous contribution he has made to the business."

Mr McCarthy said: "I will leave the business in the hands of a very experienced leadership team."

Daniel says thanks to Saddlers well-wishers

SADDLERS secretary and director Daniel Mole has taken to Twitter to thank his followers for all their support after his daughter suffered a meningitis scare.

Daniel Mole posted photographs of his daughter Daisy-Hope who was being treated at Good Hope Hospital in Sutton Coldfield.

And he wrote that she was missing her first Walsall home game since she was born as a result of being in hospital. He tweeted on Saturday: "For those of you searching for a hero, I found mine & was right in front of me all along. So brave. What. A. Girl" and later tweeted: "Never intended on putting anything on here, glad I did. Nice messages from some nice people. Thanks for caring #UTS."

Messages came in thick and fast in support for the Mole family, with Twitter user @bunsey73 saying: "Thoughts with you all Dan. Puts football into perspective. How superb is our medical profession?! #UTS #UptheNHS."

Fighter

Another user @AngelaEvo123 said: "Wishing your family all the best, have been there with an ill child, sending you strength and all our best wishes."

Mr Mole, who became assistant secretary in 2009 before taking over as club secretary from Roy Whalley in 2010, went on to tweet on Monday that Daisy-Hope was doing 'so much better' and thanked everyone for all the well wishes.

User @LB WFC tweeted: "She's a Saddler and a fighter, glad she's on the mend mate" and @drag-onstorm7 offering his support by saying: "Hope all's going well Dan and wishing a speedy recovery get well soon."

Saddlers fan Mr Mole was appointed to the board of directors in May 2015 after working his way up since joining the club's media department in 2002. He attended his first Walsall game more than 25 years ago and has worked at the club for 14 years this summer. His daughter had a meningococcal infection.

He said: "Daisy was diagnosed very early as she had a rash under her eye and was rushed to the emergency child assessment unit, showing symptoms of meningitis. By catching it early on doctors prevented it leading to full bacterial meningitis. It just made me realise as a parent, if you do spot any abnormalities you shouldn't hesitate to contact the NHS. We're lucky my wife Emma was on top of things, I dread to think what could have happened if it was left 24 hours later."



Saddlers director with Daisy-Hope and wife Emma



Daisy-Hope is seen at Good Hope Hospital

Skate park to star in regeneration

A new skate park, football pitch and play areas will feature as part of an ongoing regeneration project of the Goscote area in Blakenhall, it has emerged.

A planning application has been submitted to Walsall Council for improvements to the area known as the Goscote Lane Corridor.

By the time work is completed, Walsall Housing Group will have invested more than £42 million building new homes in the zone, including £19m on the new Waters Keep Estate.

Development of the scheme has also created job opportunities for the borough.

The latest application relates to an open space between by Shakespeare Crescent and Goscote Lodge Crescent.

A statement on the application reads: "The open space is currently low quality grassland with some existing formal paths and worn desire lines.

"The open space is predominantly used for informal recreation, such as dog-walking, and there is little in the way of play

provision or sports facilities for children, teenagers or adults.

"The open space is weakly linked and integrated with the surrounding residential area which heightens perceptions of personal security threats and anti-social behaviour activities."

Local councillor Peter Hughes has welcomed the application, adding he 'sincerely hopes' it is successful.

He said: "This planning application is most welcomed and will complement the regeneration that is now taking place,

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tragedy as pupil crossed the road

A TEENAGE girl died after she was hit by a van while walking across a pedestrian crossing, an inquest heard.

Zoe Shapiro suffered head and neck injuries in the crash and could not be saved despite the best efforts of medics. An inquest opening at Smethwick Council House heard how the 17-year-old was 'in collision with a van' as she tried to cross the road in Great Barr near her home on February 24.

She was taken to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital but died from her injuries. The Q3 Academy pupil's death has led to an outpouring of grief from friends and family.

A police investigation has been launched into Zoe's death.

A 42-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and subsequently bailed.

Black Country coroner Mr Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest until a full hearing on April 15.

Tonight's the night for fans

THE Rod Stewart Fan Club Big Weekend is returning to Walsall for the sixth consecutive year this weekend.

Starting on Friday and lasting till Sunday, the annual big weekend will see hundreds of fans from around the globe descend on the Saddlers Centre.

There will be a range of professional entertainment. The event has been going for 16 years and has raised almost £80,000 for various charities.

For more details log onto www.rod-stewartfc.com. Tickets can be booked through the website or by contacting fan club founder Ian Roberts on ian-roberts@rodstewartfc.com

Jobs axe looms for npower staff

AROUND 500 Black Country office workers face an uncertain future as the shadow of redundancy hangs over 2,500 npower jobs in the UK.

The German-owned energy giant is still refusing to comment over reports that it is set to announce plans to axe up to a quarter of its workforce in the coming days. The npower workers at the company's Birch House offices in Oldbury have already survived one major jobs cull. Two years ago 250 of their colleagues lost their jobs when npower closed its Birchfield House and Quayside House offices.

Careers fair for youngsters

THE Black Country Chamber of Commerce is holding a Your Future Careers Fair today, Thursday.

Around 40 business will be at the fair at Wednesfield High Specialist Engineering Academy, Lichfield Road, which is aimed for young people aged 14-18. Your Future Careers Fairs is a government-funded national project to deliver 250 events through Chambers of Commerce, attracting more than 70,000 young people from across England.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



YEAH, we gotta stop polluting the air and we gotta take the planet seriously. Bitesized gobbets of eco-wisdom dropped from the lips of the great and good at the Oscars. Here's a good question for them. How many times did you fly last year?

THANKS for all your emails on whatever happened to big ends, those bits deep within car engines that so often gave up the ghost in days of yore. If I cut and pasted all your learned contributions I would have a 2,500-word dissertation and possibly qualify for some sort of degree. I gather that's how academia works these days.

A READER says it's time to name and shame those who wrongly use words that sound the same. The classic example, he says, is the graffiti on a railway bridge near Oswestry proclaiming: "Gorilla War Fair."

TIME required to fight and win the first World War: four years. Time required to fight and win the Second World War: six years. Time required to draw up new trade agreements in the event of the UK leaving the EU (according to Whitehall): 10 years. In this war of words, as with any war, the first casualty is truth.

THIS was the week, as you have probably noticed, when Donald Trump stopped being mad. After his Super Tuesday success, there were no wild-eyed demands to exclude Muslims or keep Mexicans out behind a massive wall. Instead, he spoke of unity and co-operation. What's going on? There are two explanations. The first, from Piers Morgan, is that Trump has behaved outrageously to dominate the media and now, having virtually won the Republican nomination, can return to being the sober, reasonable business manager he is.



The second explanation, which I prefer, is that Trump merely wanted to shake up US politics and never in his wildest dreams expected to get this far. With the White House on his horizon and not an iota of experience in politics, he is frightened to death of becoming president and needs all the friends he can find.

THE Alliance of British Drivers claims speed cameras have failed to deliver "genuine reductions in road-accident rates" and are "a monumental waste of a very great deal of money." Meanwhile, the Pope is still a Catholic and bears are to be found crouching in forests. The case for speed traps is made mainly by the so-called "safety partnerships," who have a vested interest in providing a steady stream of erring motorists to attend driver-awareness courses at £100 a time. This is a £200m-a-year industry which provides part-time employment for ex-cops. The system sets its own limits, provides its own customers and imposes its own charges.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Photography pioneer dies aged 91

A PIONEER of British camera design has died at the age of 91. Sir Kenneth Corfield, born in Rushall, on January 27, 1924, was known by photography enthusiasts for developing the Corfield Periflex 35mm with his brother John.

His company, K G Corfield Ltd, were based in Merridale Street, Wolverhampton, for some time where they produced high quality cameras and lenses basing many design features on the Leica range

of 35mm cameras. Sir Kenneth studied at Elmore Green High in Bloxwich, where he was head boy. He is said to have died peacefully on January 11 with Patricia, his wife of 55 years, and their daughter at his side.

Current Walsall Photographic Society member Brian Felgate, aged 77, said the club would honour him at their next meeting. He said: "Walsall has a very proud record of important people and

Kenneth Corfield is further proof of that. "He is somebody that the Society and people of Walsall should be proud of."

Sir Kenneth later became an expert in telecommunications as an adviser to successive British governments.

A fundraising page set up since his death has so far raised £625 for the British Heart Foundation. Donations and tributes can be paid online at sirkenneth.corfield.muchloved.com



Sir Kenneth Corfield

Flouting of planning feared as staff leave

WALSALL Council has been branded 'foolish' after being left without any dedicated development enforcement officers. It has prompted fears that planning laws across the borough will be openly flouted.

Two officers who dealt with contentious planning issues have recently left while a temporary replacement from an agency has also moved on.

Councillor Sean Coughlan claimed a factory at Wolverhampton Street in Willenhall has been used illegally for housing for months and warned that the town can expect to see more rogue developments without a dedicated team to clamp down on them.

He said: "People have been living inside that factory since last year. It has been turned into a house of multiple occupancy without having planning consent. It is just one example and this sort of things makes us look foolish."

He added: "It is a difficult time at the moment. Two officers have left and the agency officer has also gone. There is no-one to go out and take enforcement action. The council leader has said we are now advertising for the posts."

The council declared it was monitoring the situation at the factory.

A spokesman said: "Officers have been aware of this site since last year and visits have been undertaken. Consideration is now being given as to whether there is sufficient evidence to support any future enforcement action."

Brakes are put on car cruising

POLICE say a clampdown on car cruising in Walsall has been a success.

In January, neighbourhood officers in Aldridge confirmed they had received a number of calls reporting car cruising on Sunday nights at Brickyard Road and the Maybrook Industrial Estate.

After increased monitoring from forces across the region, no further complaints were made in February.

Sergeant Joanne Winters said: "The local neighbourhood team together with other police departments are monitoring the car cruisers' activity."

"At the beginning of February a joint regional operation with Staffordshire, West Mercia, Warwickshire and West Midlands police was conducted and I can state that we have had no further calls."

New homes at old pub site now in use

THE first new homes at a former crime-hit pub in Wolverhampton are now occupied. The Bushbury Arms, on Showell Circus, is being transformed due to a partnership between Wrekin Housing Trust and Bushbury Hill Estate Management Board.

By Jack Averty

A PARAMEDIC sacked from West Midlands Ambulance Service for failing to help a patient who collapsed at Walsall Manor Hospital car park has been struck off.

Carl Cope, aged 47, died after suffering a fatal heart attack in the hospital's car park in 2012.

Paramedic Andrew Davies allegedly stood by as Mr Cope died and he was sacked from WMAS as well as having criminal charges brought against him.

These were later dropped but has been struck off the Health and Care Professionals Council register, meaning he can no longer work as a paramedic.

An HCPC panel in London heard how there was a period of between six and nine minutes where Mr Davies would have been able to see Mr Cope on the ground but did not take action.

A report from the hearing added: "The panel viewed the CCTV footage of the incident. It read the statements which were gathered from colleagues after the incident by the investigating officer. It heard and had the opportunity to question the HCPC witnesses."

"This evidence all indicates to the panel that the registrant had sight of patient A whilst he was collapsed on the ground of the Walsall Manor Hospital car park and did not take 'any action', as identified in the particular, to provide care to this patient."

Chair of the panel Naseem Malik said: "Mr Davies' failure to act was conduct falling far below that expected by the public, his profession, and fellow practitioners. There is, in the panel's view, insufficient evidence that Mr Davies has gained meaningful insight into his failings. In the absence of such insight there remains a likelihood of repetition of the misconduct."

Mr Davies's colleague Matthew Geary was given an eight month suspended sentence for his role in the incident. He was not struck off and is free to work as a paramedic.

Ace player Kully brings home £200,000



Professional poker player Kully Sidhu who scooped nearly £200,000

HE swapped selling clothes for playing cards – and now this poker ace, left, from Willenhall is reaping the rewards after scooping almost £200,000 in a European tournament.

Kully Sidhu worked for his father's clothing store in Bentley before developing a love of the game.

Now aged 33, Mr Sidhu, from New Invention, won 250,000 euros, by finishing third at the prestigious Dublin European Poker Tournament. The cards champ paid £5,000 to enter the competition's six-day event.

The big win comes just a year after Kully, who has been playing professionally for six years, won £495,000 at a tournament in Barcelona.

That win combined with his latest accounts for the majority of his £918,000 amassed from live tournament winnings.

Kully, who ranks 74th on England's all-time poker winnings list, said: "It was great to get another big win under my belt. The tournament was a high pressure situation, as they all are at this level."

"When you are playing the best of the best, it is part of the territory."

Balancing

Kully, who studied at Sneyd Comprehensive School in Bloxwich, worked with his father at Bentley clothing store Sidhu Fashions after leaving De Montfort University, where he had developed a love for the game.

He tried to forge his professional career while balancing it with work but decided to call it quits at age 20 when he felt things weren't going his way.

He didn't play cards for six months but soon got back in the swing of things, continuing his work at the clothes shop while preparing for a leap into the professional world.

He said: "It was by no means an overnight thing, I had to work hard and be sure that I could commit to being professional before I made the decision. It was on and off for a long time. When I stopped playing, it didn't feel right at the time but it helped me become the player I am now."

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Hundreds of pupils get taught out of borough

AROUND 150 pupils with special educational needs are being educated outside the borough as achievement levels fall below the national average.

Council bosses met to discuss issues with the special educational needs system in Walsall on Tuesday. A report into work being undertaken states that there are currently about 150 children and young people getting their education outside of the borough.

It also says the achievement of pupils with special educational needs disabilities at Key Stages 2 and 4 in Walsall 'falls significantly below the national average'. Reducing the need for children and young people to go out of the borough to receive their education is listed as a key priority for bosses.

Councillor Chris Towe, Portfolio Holder for Education Services said: "Some children and young people have specialist educational needs, and sometimes these are best met by expert providers who may be outside of the borough. By working directly with families, we ensure that a child's educational provision is appropriate to their needs."

"However, sometimes due to the specialist nature of some children's and young people's needs, this provision may not be in Walsall."

Also listed amongst a number of targets for the sector is a plea to reduce complaints from parents of special educational needs children by putting 'the child and family more at the centre of the service'.

Car park plans given backing

PLANS for a free car park on the site of a former neighbourhood office have been backed by transport bosses in Walsall.

Land in Buxton Road, Little Bloxwich near Lower Farm Primary School, will be converted into a 19-space car park, with two spaces reserved for disabled users.

The car park will be built using £90,000 from the sale of the former Millfields Nursery School. Work is expected to start over Easter and will take eight to 10 weeks to complete.

Deputy council leader Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "It will be a boost to traders and shoppers in the area. It makes a lot of sense to provide spaces for people to park their vehicles off site."

Delays are due with roadworks

DELAYS are expected on a main road when roadworks get underway. South Staffs Water will be repairing equipment valves on the A449 near Wall Heath from Friday. The work is set to last four days.

Sporty youngsters run out at Banks's



Mason Fellows with Tom Bradshaw

CHILDREN and parents from a Walsall housing estate have scored a boost to their fitness after taking part in a Lottery-funded exercise programme at Walsall Football Club.

Delves Tenant Management Organisation (TMO) – part of WATMOS Community Homes housing association – teamed up with the Saddlers throughout last year to encourage its residents to keep fit.

The Soccercise scheme, run by eight coaches and volunteers from the club's community programme, has been hailed a huge success – with

one talented lad picked out to join a development squad. Eight-year-old Mason Fellows was spotted as having great potential during the scheme and has joined the gifted and talented programme run by the League One club.

To celebrate the completion of the sporty scheme, Mason and 10 other youngsters were invited to be Walsall mascots at the 0-0 draw with Scunthorpe at the Banks's Stadium.

Walsall Football Club's female football development officer Katie Grainger, who led the Soccercise training, said: "Everyone who took

part has definitely seen an improvement in their fitness levels and their social skills. We are delighted to have helped them discover the many benefits of sport."

The Soccercise programme is funded by The Big Lottery and got off the ground last April after Delves East TMO netted a £9,578 grant to get families from the estate involved in physical activity.

Delves East TMO estate manager Sheila Bromwich, said: "The children were so excited about being mascots. It was a wonderful finale."

Justice has last laugh on fined fly-tip pair

TWO laughing fly-tippers who tied a rope to a 'no tipping' sign to help dump a mountain of rubbish have been fined £400 each after being caught on camera.

Footage shows the unsuspecting John Herbert and McCawley Arrowsmith attach the bag full of demolition debris to the signpost in Blakenall.

The pair, from Well Lane, Blakenall, then leap in the van before it is driven forward, launching the bag of rubbish off the back of the wagon. Both appear laughing as they make their getaway, leaving the waste, along with a large tree root, behind them.

Justice finally caught up with the pair, aged 19, when they both appeared at Walsall Magistrates Court last Monday, pleading guilty to fly-tipping. They were both fined £400 for the offence and ordered to pay a further £123 in compensation, costs of £150 and a victim surcharge of £40.

The incident happened in Canalside Close, Blakenall on October 26, 2014.

Council bosses have slammed their actions.

Majority

The borough's environmental portfolio holder, Councillor Louise Harrison, said: "We work hard to keep our borough tidy and a huge majority of residents respect the environment in which they live but there are some that simply don't care and this tough action complements the day-to-day work we do within the community."

Last year, bosses spent £4,000 on eight devices to covertly record offenders, which were strategically positioned in hotspots around the borough, before being moved around to cope with demand.

The council previously used only Domehawk cameras, which are fitted onto lamp posts but they are clearly visible. Figures from the authority show that fly-tippers struck on more than 5,000 occasions between 2012 and 2014, with £345,000 being spent on cleaning up rubbish dumped over that period.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, Walsall Council deputy leader said: "The total disregard shown by the actions of these individuals has been justly recognised by Walsall Magistrates. We will not tolerate behaviour like this which attempts to pour scorn on the rights of our residents to live in a clean and safe environment."

"Each of these individuals will have to pay back £10 a week for the next year and a half or face the consequences of further legal action."



John Herbert, left, and McCawley Arrowsmith prepare the waste they plan to dump on Well Lane



The bag of waste on the wagon is tied to the sign



Herbert appears to laugh after the vehicle pulls off

NEWS IN BRIEF

Health centre told to improve

A HEALTH watchdog has told a Walsall medical practice to make safety improvements.

The Care Quality Commission raised issues with recruitment processes at the Saddlers Health Centre although it rated the practice 'Good' overall. Inspectors visited the facility on December 2.

Their report said: "Processes for recruitment were not robust enough to maintain patient safety as some staff who had not had DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks completed worked directly with patients."

Forties weekend at rugby club

WILLENHALL Rugby Club's ground will be taking a time trip back to the 1940s.

It will be staging Four Ashes in the Forties on April 30 and May 1 to raise funds for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

There will be displays of World War Two era military vehicles, military displays by re-enactment groups and 1940s entertainment at the ground in Bognop Road, Essington, from 11am to 5pm each day.

Admission will be £5 for adults and £3 for children and pensioners.

Child exploitation put on the agenda

A CHILD sexual exploitation awareness event is taking place in Walsall later this month.

The event, being held by Walsall Street Teams, will show attendees six short clips of people making the right choice when faced with situations that could lead to child sex exploitation.

Attendees will also have a chance to meet the Street Teams team and ask any questions. The event is taking place at the New Art Gallery between midday and 2pm on March 18.

Chips are down on plans for takeaway

PLANS for a chip shop at the Brackendale Shopping Centre in Willenhall has been withdrawn.

Concerns over anti-social behaviour, noise and smell from residents had been raised over the proposal to convert a former florist's.

The application had been due to go to Walsall Council's planning committee. Ward councillor Doreen Shires said: "It would have been seen as a smack in the face to residents if the committee allowed this to happen."

New members plea

A CHOIR is inviting men to join them to sing in four part harmonies. Practice nights for Walsall Harmonic Male Voice Choir are on Mondays at Chuckery Club on Beacon Street at 8pm. The choir's next concert is at the Church of Christ the King, Lichfield Road, Pelsall, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Pardon but it explains lot about X Factor

LOUIS Walsh, the man who brought us Westlife, Boyzone and Shayne Ward, says he is going deaf. Which explains how a lot of the acts on X Factor have somehow managed to get so far.

Still could be worse. Spare a thought for the rest of us. Some of us can actually hear them.

YOU know, there are those odd occasions when I think our politicians could learn from their counterparts in other countries when it comes to making their work more interesting.

Take for example the deputy leader of Portugal's Labour Party, Jose Manuel Coelho. Last week he was feeling a little miffed about plans to cut his salary, and to reinforce his point in a parliamentary debate, he took off his shirt and trousers while shouting something about "rotten justice". To complete the performance, he was then seen walking out of the parliament wearing just his socks, and boxer shorts, clutching a briefcase and what appeared to be a photograph of The Weakest Link.

Now, I can see there might be a downside if Jeremy Corbyn tried to replicate that look, but hey, I'm sure nobody would object if he kept his vest on.

Meanwhile, over in the Ukraine last year, MP Oleh Barna took exception to something prime minister Arseny Yatseniuk said. And despite actually being in coalition with Arseny, old Oleh decided the appropriate response would be to lift him from the podium and carry him away. And while this was going on, for some unexplained reason, the prime minister started frantically waving a bunch of red roses as Oleh lifted him over his shoulder.

And then we come to our old friend Robert Mugabe, who belied his youthful good looks with a party to mark his 92nd birthday last week. When a journalist asked him if he had given any thought to who might replace him when he retired, he replied: "Do you want me to punch you to the floor?"

One suspects getting beaten up by a 92-year-old would probably have dented the newsman's pride rather more than his face.

And Poland is now governed by the Prawo i Sprawiedliwos party. Or the PiS Party as it is more commonly abbreviated.

Is it me, or do you think we are possibly being cheated in this country?

AND congratulations to Rupert Murdoch and Jerry Hall on their wedding. According to reports, the media mogul gave Mick Jagger's ex a £2.8 million marriage-cut diamond engagement ring.

I'm not normally one to give advice to newly-weds, but on this occasion, I'm going to make an exception.

Jerry, keep your hands in your pockets when you visit Liverpool.



The Labour leader with Living Water cafe volunteers in Willenhall



The Newport Advertiser – Mr Corbyn was a former reporter



Mr Corbyn in Willenhall with Councillor Sean Coughlan

Corbyn: My love for the Black Country

Labour's Jeremy Corbyn reveals his West Midland roots – an area he fondly remembers. **ROB GOLLEDGE** reports

HE is the firebrand veteran Labour backbencher who became the surprise Leader of the Opposition after sweeping the party's leadership contest by a landslide.

But, surprisingly, the radical left winger's roots can be traced back to a leafy fringe of the Black Country.

The Labour leader's parents worked in Stafford and he grew up in nearby Newport over the Shropshire border.

It was here that he also developed a 'great affection' for the Black Country and its industries.

He has told how growing up in the region shaped him but how even at an early age his views found him at odds with his peers.

In a candid interview with over a cup of tea in Willenhall, during a recent visit to the area, Mr Corbyn said: "Whilst I probably had political differences with just about everybody at various times I remember it all extremely well and enjoyably."

Diversity

"I absolutely do have an affection for the Black Country because the amazing history and diversity of it.

"Different industries took place in different places.

"The nail-makers, the lock-makers, the blast furnaces, and later the car industry, the aircraft industry and all that."

And he sees a bright future for the region.

"I think the renaissance of the Black Country in the sense of culture and art that has



Jeremy Corbyn who visited Willenhall with Andy Burnham recently to launch Labour's gone on has been incredible," he said.

"Also the way in which the centre of Birmingham has been transformed is fantastic."

Mr Corbyn also recalled that he was once in journalism himself, and at one time was a reporter on the Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser, part of the Chronicle's parent group the Midland News Association.

"I was briefly its chief reporter covering everything from crime, education to religious

heavy electrical equipment, based in Stafford – and his mother, Naomi, who taught in both Stafford and Wellington.

He also revealed how his father was part of the founding group that set up the Blists Hill Museum at Madeley.

"I grew up in Shropshire and then in life had the amazing experience of leaving Newport at the end of school and was a volunteer in Jamaica and went there for two years and went around Latin America and so on," he said.

"I then came back and my first job was on a farm.

"I have always been formed by this small town which was my entire world until I left it then went all around the world and end up with the job I am doing now.

"What I liked about it was the sense of community that there was there.

"In a sense everyone is looking for a feeling of community and even in densely-populated urban areas there is still the search for a village belonging."

Landscape

"Village belonging can be a physical one, can be community one in terms of linguistic of ethnic community it can be lots of things. Shropshire is a wonderful country.

"It's the largest inland county and has that amazing diversity of landscape from the relative flat part in North Shropshire and then Church Stretton and Ironbridge, the cradle of the Industrial Revolution.

"Indeed my dad was one of the people who founded the Blists Hill Museum because he was very keen on industrial history and he worked at GEC in Stafford.

"And my mum was a teacher firstly in Wellington and then in Stafford so I remember their anger when the Shrewsbury to Stafford railway line closed.

"I have a real love of Shropshire and the Black Country and have many happy memories from growing up here."

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There's no fact of life with Darwinism

EVOLUTION is not fact! K Mellor's letter of 15 Feb claims that 'Darwinian evolution is a fact,' then that evolutionary biologists study the 'fact of evolution'.

Darwinian evolution is certainly not a fact more is it in any way the best inference to the evidence we now have. It is a theory at best, and one that is now in very serious crisis and as the years roll by it becomes less and less tenable. There is a mountain of evidence against it.

There are now some 12 competing evolutionary theories around, none of

which claim that the mechanism of evolution is that of - 'unguided random mutation and natural selection' which are now being recognised as incapable of producing the complex life found on earth. He likens crystal growth to the way complex biological structures are formed and change, which is plain nonsense.

Crystal growth follows only naturally occurring patterns, as do the formation of snowflakes, stalagmites and sand dunes. These are everyday interactions of matter, energy and the known laws of physics, so, no help re-

quired here from a designer other than in setting-up the laws in the first place! It is very different with the way life proceeds, which is always based on information, language and code, which can only be provided by a design-input. It's the same with plans, music, instructions, human language, computer language and the 3.6 billion letter code found in the DNA molecule. Designs always contain patterns and information, but natural patterns never contain designs or complex information.

R C ELLIS
Walsall

On edge in shops due to radios

MY wife and I do not often visit Wolverhampton shops but having done a couple of shows at the Grand over the last couple of weeks, on a Saturday and Sunday – superb I must say, we took time to go round the shops.

I noticed and got very distracted by shop assistants going round inside and outside with walkie talkies quite openly with chitter and chatter going on. With my background I know that someone is being eyed for wrongdoing. Unfortunately the chitter of communication between the various shops is disconcerting to the normal shopper who should feel comfortable in the environment.

Instead I kept looking around me wondering who was going to run or pounce. I was on edge all the time. Anyway great visit to Wolverhampton but can't city ops invest in earpieces to stop chitter chatter being overheard?

J WALTON
Walsall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Walsall Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

walsall.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and **MUST** include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Pulis should get his players in shop work

RETIRED about six years ago as a green grocer. Used to start 3am to get to the wholesale market to get stock for my shop in my Transit van, rain, snow or shine. Got to the shop about 6am to stock up, trim veg, sort salad and fruit, etc. Sometimes have a sandwich and a cuppa then open up at 9am.

I would work all day and arrive home about 6pm, doing 15 hours – six days a week. Sometimes I would do book work and stock sheets to keep the office work up to date at night. Then sit down and read the Express & Star.

Reading about Tony Pulis WBA manager on about how tired his players were travelling ('luxury coach') and having to play two games a week (three hours). I thought what a shame! He wants to work his players in a shop – six days – 15 hours a day to see what being 'tired' is in real life. Mind you if I were on £20-30,000 a week, it helps take the tiredness away. I wished I had been on that much perhaps I would have not felt so 'tired'?

You did an article on Nigel Povey recently about his years in the fruit-veg trade at his shop in Walsall. If you asked him, he would back me up on what being 'tired' is!

J W DAVID
Walsall

Why not lose links with US?

K Wilcox debunks the myth of our perceived special relationship with the United States.

Despite making a late entry to the Great War, they still managed to relieve Britain of its empire.

Then with another belated entry to European war, they were able to saddle us with debts that including interest charges which took us 60 years to repay.

For a century they have manipulated wars to their economic advantage, using weapons of mass destruction across the world.

They bomb with impunity, reserving the right to declare war against any country, citing their own vital national interests.

Whilst our current decision is whether to free ourselves from the economic diktat of German imperialism, it would seem equally pertinent to consider freeing ourselves from the military clutches of US imperialism.

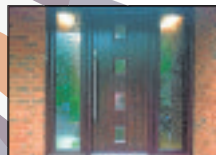
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Rail users in call over direct link

RAIL users have made a fresh plea for a direct train line between Walsall and Wolverhampton.

The 12-minute link was reintroduced in 1998, but closed in 2008 after funding was withdrawn. Proposals to reopen stations at Willenhall Bilston Street and Portobello were also dropped.

Currently, rail passengers travel between Walsall and Wolverhampton via Birmingham, taking more than an hour. At a Government rail consultation held at Walsall Station, passengers called for the rail link to be returned.

Ray Butler, aged 71, from Wednesbury, said: "I also think if they reopened the Darlaston line and put in a park

and ride it would create a circular route and there would be a better connection for everyone."

Semi-retired Mike Ballinger, aged 64, from Aldridge, said he thought services had improved but also called for a more direct link between the two major Black Country destinations.

Representatives from West Midlands Rail, Department for Transport and Walsall Council were on hand during the 'have your say' consultation.

John French, aged 77, of Lee Road, Walsall, said: "If ever we go into Wolverhampton we get the bus but we'd much prefer to get the train. It used to be so quick."

Memorial key to town's heritage

A MEMORIAL to the lock-smiths of Willenhall has been unveiled. The fitting tribute was the culmination of years of fundraising and research.

The Willenhall Lock Workers Memorial was unveiled to a crowd of around 200 people eager to see the names of former factory workers inscribed on bricks to mark their contribution to the town's history.

A plan to build a monument in the town centre containing the details of workers past and present has been long in the making, with more than £10,000 of funding raised and more than 300 members of the public backing the idea by buying a brick.

Campaign

The Willenhall Heritage Trust launched a sponsorship campaign in 2014 to help cover the costs to build the structure, which is located on land at the corner of Walsall Street and Bilston Street.

It recognises the people who worked for leading industry names such as Yale, Chubb and Squire.

Councillor Diane Coughlan, who is also a member of the Willenhall Heritage Trust, said: "I would like to thank everyone who attended the unveiling and of course, all of those who purchased a brick."

"Without them it wouldn't have been possible to get this far."

"Now the memorial is up I hope it can be maintained for a long time to preserve a crucial part of our history."



Some of the names inscribed on bricks



The memorial to the lock workers



From left, Wendy Evans, Lyndon Whitehouse, Councillor Diane Coughlan and Jacqueline Read from Willenhall Heritage Trust

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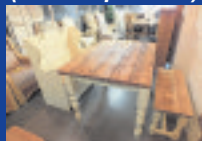


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Borough's schools back under Ofsted scrutiny

Diamond duo celebrate



Diamond couple Allen and Anne

A COUPLE from Willenhall are celebrating their diamond anniversary milestone.

Allen and Anne Richards, of Short Heath, marked their big day on February 18, six decades on from when they wed in Leominster, Herefordshire in 1956.

The couple, aged 83 and 80 respectively, originally met in 1953 while Allen was working in the RAF before they both went on to live and work in the Black Country.

Allen worked in the Harris and Sheldon factory in Charles Holland Street, Willenhall while Anne worked at Beacon Infant School in New Invention.

After tying the knot, the couple travelled to London for their honeymoon. Anne said: "In London we



The couple on their wedding day

went round all the sites and theatres. It was snowing, it was very cold but a nice day."

Anne and Allen have a daughter and a son and four grandchildren.

They celebrated the big day with a family meal at the Broadway in Walsall, with their children also taking them for a few nights away to further the celebrations.

Anne said: "It doesn't seem like 60 years, it is wonderful. Our anniversary was a lovely evening and it was lovely to have all the family together."

"We've had such a fantastic 60 years together, we have two wonderful children and four grandchildren."

"We are both very happy and could not have it any better."

SCHOOLS in Walsall have gone under the microscope as Government education chiefs review whether improvements demanded two years ago have been made.

In 2014, Ofsted concluded Walsall Council, the education authority for state-run schools in the borough, 'required improvement'.

Last week inspectors returned, and visited around a dozen schools.

Education chief Councillor Chris Towe said: "In 2014 Ofsted took a view that we needed improvement and now they are re-visiting us."

"They will visit at least 12 schools and be looking in on the council to ensure we are doing our best to support schools."

In a damning verdict two years ago, Ofsted declared too many students were learning in inadequate establishments.

Quick

The watchdog also concluded the proportion of young pupils achieving average levels of attainment at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2 was too low and improvements were not quick enough. Similarly, inspectors criticised the lack of sixth formers achieving good grades.

Councillor Towe said the authority had made strides in recent months. "We need to be in a better place locally," she said.

"There has been some significant improvements made. However it will be for Ofsted to tell us how far we have come when they publish their report."

"I have been pleased to see the work we have been doing in Walsall. Positives changes have been made."

She cited Leamore Primary in Bloxwich moving out of special measures last month as evidence the authority may be heading in the right direction.

As recently as December, however, the borough's primary's were collectively rated as the some of the worst in the country.

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Get creative for an improved career

WALSALL College is urging school leavers and adults looking for a career change to enrol on a creative course.

Research has found that students who have an interest in these courses don't realise the range of transferable skills they could learn and the diverse roles these skills could lead to.

Head of curriculum for creative industries at Walsall College, David Turner, said: "Studying courses like art and design, media production, fashion, dance, music and performing arts, can lead to careers in a fast growing and exciting industry."

"But they also offer a wide range of skills relevant to

almost any industry, should graduates decide to change direction in the future.

"As well as developing their creativity and technical ability, skills like creative thinking, communicating, problem solving and presenting are the fundamental principles that are covered on these courses.

"Degree level courses at the college also can develop managerial and leadership potential, useful in any industry."

To find out more about Walsall College's creative courses or to apply for one of them, visit www.walsallcollege.ac.uk or attend the open day on Thursday March 17, from 4 to 7pm.

Early cancer diagnosis targets being missed

WALSALL Manor Hospital is missing time targets for diagnosing and treating patients in the early stages of cancer.

Hospitals across the country are expected to provide 85 per cent of patients starting treatment 62 days after a referral, but Walsall's figures sat at 69 per cent in January.

Targets were also missed for 62-day referrals for treatment after a patient had been upgraded by a consultant to start treatment.

The hospital also missed the 95 per cent target for all patients being seen to within four hours in accident and emergency, recording 84.3 per cent.

The trust did meet national cancer targets for arranging follow-up surgery or drug treatments within 31 days. All figures were recorded for the month of January and revealed during a Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust board meeting last Wednesday.

Pathways

Steve Vaughan, the trust's interim chief operating officer, admitted there were a number of patients waiting longer than they should be for cancer treatment and diagnosis.

Mr Vaughan, speaking during the meeting, said there was some good work being carried out to reduce 'cancer pathways', which aims to bring down waiting times, to remedy the problems.

He said: "We are revising our remedial action plan, looking at how we are overseeing the waiting lists.

"We are also looking at how we can shorten the pathways for patients."

Mr Vaughan said an emergency care task force had been set up in response to ensure the trust could reach its targets.

"We discharge about 45 patients on average over the weekend but we want those figures to reach 60," he said.

"During January we saw a small percentage increase in patients waiting longer than 18 weeks for referral but the total backlog is reducing."

Bulls Head to disappear



A view of the former Bulls Head, in Bloxwich, which is due to be demolished and become supported living apartments

THE former Bulls Head pub in Bloxwich has had the final nail in its coffin after planning chiefs approved plans to have the building demolished.

It will be replaced by 14 supported living apartments. It has been shut since 2007 and was devastated by an arson attack in 2011.

At a planning committee meeting, councillors unanimously approved the plans which the committee's chairman councillor Garry Perry said 'made sense'.

Councillors raised concerns over the type of people who would be living in the apartments given that it would not be a care facility but

these were addressed by the applicant on the night, Bromford Developments.

Councillor Perry said: "I think on balance given the condition of that building after the arson attack it just makes sense to get it developed while we have the opportunity to do so." The pub's roof was destroyed in a suspected arson attack which caused part of the first floor and interior walls to collapse back in 2011.

Thirty firefighters tackled the blaze, which left the pub in a dangerous state. For a period, it was poised to be taken over by JD Wetherspoon, which would have created 40 new jobs.

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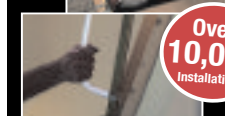


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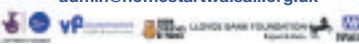
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If you are interested in attending either course we are holding enrolment mornings on the following dates: Thursday 24th March 9.30am - 11.00am at our premises in Birchills and Monday 4th April 9.30am - 11.00am at Surestart Darlaston.

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Brave run in memory of twin boys



Chris Dolan, from Pelsall, who is running from the Manor Hospital to Liverpool Women's Neonatal department

TWO years after Chris Dolan's baby twins died after being born prematurely he is now running from Walsall to Liverpool in their memory.

He will be tackling the 88-mile route from Walsall Manor Hospital to Liverpool Women's Hospital to raise money for LWH's neonatal unit as well as the children's charity Bliss.

The journey is significant for school teacher Chris, aged 31, and his wife Vicky, 33, as that's the route their two boys Jack and Spencer took when they were born prematurely. There were no beds available at Walsall Manor Hospital and the closest with space was Liverpool Women's Hospital.

Chris spoke about the run, his training and the tragedy of losing his two sons.

He said: "What I'm doing is running from Walsall Manor Hospital to Liverpool Women's Hospital in memory of my boys who passed away in June 2014."

"It's very important to me, even though they have passed away they were very important in our lives and I want to do something in their memory. If that means raising some money and raising awareness of the route they had to take to get the right care then great."

He continued: "I'm slowly building up the training, I've got 10 weeks until the day. I am looking at my training really hard and I have got my

friends who are helping me. I should be well-prepared when that weekend comes."

"I had a cheat day the other day but other than that I'm eating all the right things, carbohydrates before exercise and protein after. It was incredibly tough when my boys passed, my world just stopped."

"I wasn't sure how we were going to get through but me and my wife Vicky are stronger for it."

Chris is taking part in the charity run on May 31, what would have been his boys' second birthday.

Those interested in sponsoring Chris for his run can visit www.just-giving.com/Jackandspencerdolan



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Charity show in honour of Ben who died in 2014



Youngsters Gabija Statkute, Shannon Bourne and Edna Jowa ahead of Aldridge School's showcase performance



Ben Sambrook, who had a brain tumour

MORE than 100 students at a Walsall school are putting on a show to raise money for charity, in honour of ex-pupil Ben Sambrook who died from a brain tumour in 2014.

Young performers from Aldridge School are putting on the show, featuring songs, dance and performances, in memory of their friend.

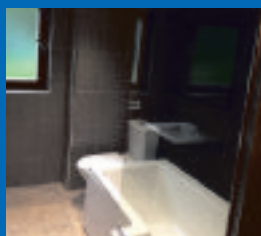
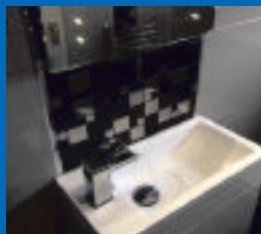
Ben, who would have been 17 this month, was diagnosed with a malignant tumour when he was seven.

His parents, Sharon and Steve, said

their son 'loved drama'. They said: "We would like to thank the drama department at Aldridge School for its continued support and for nominating Brain Tumour Support, a charity that is so dear to us."

"The fact that the showcase events are taking place during Brain Tumour Awareness Month and that they are only a few days before what would have been Ben's 17th birthday, is a fitting tribute to our brave son."

The show is being staged on March 22 and 23, starting at 7pm at the school in Tynings Lane. Tickets are free but donations are being asked for towards Brain Tumour Support.



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Tipton profits on the up

THE Tipton and Coseley Building Society enjoyed increased profits last year as mortgage lending was also increased. Its net profit rose by more than four per cent in 2015 to £2.31 million from £2.14m a year before and mortgage lending also rose by three per cent on 2014 to £52.08m. The society's gross capital increased to £35.31m, up by more than nine per cent.

Chief executive Richard Newton said: "To report such upbeat figures, during a time of continued economic uncertainty is a solid achievement."

Vice girl robbers in bag theft are jailed

TWO drug addict prostitutes are behind bars after snatching a woman's handbag and threatening to stab her.

And one of them, who committed an attempted robbery the following day, sold an electronic tablet stolen from a house to try and fund her and another druggie pals' habit.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how Kayley Roberts pounced on her unsuspecting victim, a widow in her 50s, in the first robbery, before calling Rebecca Tonkinson over to help her when she couldn't wrestle the bag away.

Prosecutor Ian Ball said: "The robbery took place on October 20, 2015 of a lady's handbag. She left home and headed towards Wednesbury Road bus stop on the day of the attack.

"She then heard someone behind her who grabbed her handbag. A tug of war then took place. The victim attempted to hit the attacker to get her to release the bag. Roberts called over to Tonkinson to help get the bag. Tonkinson reached into her pocket and told the victim 'I'll f***ing stab you. Roberts took hold of the bag and made her escape.

"Her bag wasn't recovered, and she lost her purse, camera, bank cards and the first photographs of her grandchildren. She is afraid to leave the house some mornings."

He added: "An attempted robbery then took place the next day just before 2pm outside White Pearl Pharmacy in Darlaston. A 65-year-old woman had just left her flat and was walking past, when a girl arrived to try and snatch her bag.

"The woman held onto her bag but it was grabbed by Roberts with considera-

By Nick Humphreys

ble force. A man saw what was happening and ran over to help and Roberts ran away. Then on October 27, a house was burgled in Walsall. "Among the items they took was a Lenovo tablet, which Roberts attempted to sell at a branch of Cash Converters."

It was heard the tablet had been acquired by her accomplice Carl Spragg. Roberts, of Tantarra Street, Walsall, pleaded guilty to robbery, attempted robbery and handling stolen goods. Tonkinson, of St Johns Road, Walsall, pleaded guilty to robbery, and Spragg, of St Michaels Street, Walsall, pleaded guilty to handling stolen goods.

Mr David Swinnerton, defending Roberts, said that she had grown up with a mother who was a drug addict and an alcoholic. He said she has had heroin and crack cocaine addictions since the age of 18.

Mr Oliver Woolhouse, defending Tonkinson, said that she was a mother-of-five who had her first child at the age of 16. Judge Peter Barrie sentenced Roberts to two and a half years in prison and Tonkinson to 11 months behind bars. Spragg was handed a sentence of four months, but was released having already served the time.

Applications for Hub courses are on the increase

WALSALL College has seen a large rise in applications for its business and sports courses since opening its £11 million Hub, according to bosses.

The college has seen a 21 per cent increase in students applying for its business courses and a 14 per cent surge for sports courses starting in September 2016, in comparison to applications received for the same period during the last academic year.

The college's business and sports hub, called simply The Hub, which opened in September of last year, features a range of state-of-the-art facilities available to

students. The facilities include a multi-purpose sports hall, dance and fitness studios, the Littleton Restaurant, a gym, spa, sports training and injury clinic.

The principal and chief executive at the college, Jatinder Sharma OBE, said: "From the onset our vision behind the Hub has been to support our local business and sport sectors to plug the skills gaps linked to their growth.

"So I am delighted our new venue has sparked a greater interest in students wanting to study courses related to these areas, which are vital to our local economy."




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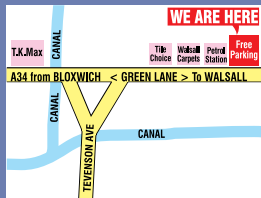
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Staffs & Worcs canal at Compton about 100 years ago

Lock where first earth was dug for canal link

IN 1766, exactly 250 years ago, a spade was thrust into the ground at Compton, and construction of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal began.

The Act of Parliament authorising this important link between the East coast via the River Trent, and the West coast via the River Severn, was passed on May 14, 1766, and work began soon after.

The first earth was dug at Compton lock, on what is the highest level of the canal.

The overall supervisor of the canal was James Brindley, who had built the Duke of Bridgewater's canal in Lancashire, and was also constructing the Trent & Mersey Canal.

Brindley was born in 1716, near Leek, and thus this year is the 300th anniversary of his

MEMORY LANE

birth. The actual construction of the canal was given to one of Brindley's pupil assistants, Thomas Dadford, who had been born near Stourton but was living in Wolverhampton at the time.

He and his sons went on to become major canal engineers in their own right.

The canal opened in 1772, as did the Birmingham Canal Navigations, which linked with it at Aldersley, rising through 21 locks to the centre of the City and onwards throughout the Black Country and Birmingham.

For the first time the coal and iron products of the region could be exported in bulk throughout the country, and

the world, and the industrial revolution was facilitated.

The canal reached the River Severn at Stourport, and at its other end joined the Trent & Mersey Canal at Great Heywood. Soon afterwards the Shropshire Union Canal to the North West also linked with the Staffs & Worcs, at Autherley Junction, half a mile from Aldersley and an important waterways crossroads was created.

The Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre, which sits only yards from the canal is planning an exhibition to celebrate the 250th anniversary and is seeking to borrow any related artefacts to add to its own small collection.

Open every Sunday, the Heritage Centre offers a free map for a self guided walk around the adjacent historic sites.



James Brindley who was canal pioneer

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Metal thefts fall following police blitz on cowboys



Repairs take place at The Cedars, Compton Hospice, where lead from the roof was stolen. METAL theft has plummeted by as much as 82 per cent in the West Midlands during a police blitz on rogue traders who buy stolen scrap. There were around 350 crimes a month in the region in 2012, down to just 60 at the end of last year.

Falling global demand and prices for metal, coupled with West Midlands Police's Operation Steel, which has targeted thieves and dealers who turn a blind eye to stolen metal, have been credited with the drop.

Churches, schools, bus shelters and people's homes have all been targeted for lead, copper and other metals by thieves who cashed in on growing metal prices.

Railways and phone networks were disrupted, and businesses were left with huge repair bills. Last June, it was reported how lead thieves targeted a Grade-I listed church near Wolverhampton, stripping metal from the roof and causing £10,500 worth of damage.

It was the sixth time St Bartholomew's Church in Tong had been hit by metal thieves in the space of five years.

And in May, raiders targeted Wolverhampton's Compton Hospice to tear lead from the roof and catalytic converters from the fleet of charity shop delivery vans. Police were given a boost by the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. Officers have been carrying out spot checks on traders, and pulling over suspect vehicles.

Temporary Supt Phil Dolby, who leads Operation Steel, said: "Regular checks of vehicles and scrap sites, along with new legal powers, have helped us combat metal

REPORT BY LISA WRIGHT

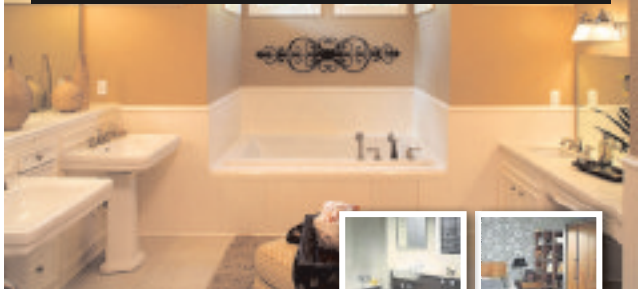
theft and deter thieves. Any scrap metal yards operating illegally or found to have taken stolen metal face being taken to court and that's helping really restrict the market for thieves.

"Metal theft is not a victimless crime: thefts from iconic community buildings like churches or mosques can be harmful to a community, while stealing cables can cut off the internet, leading to losses of millions of pounds for some companies. There is also the public safety element: for example, if manhole covers are removed."

Bernie Auguste, security chief at BT Openreach said new laws, coupled with technology that can highlight suspicious activity within cables, had helped. Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson added: "Metal theft has a huge impact on victims. Those responsible have no regard for targets, with churches, war memorials and people's homes all hit by those on the hunt for copper and lead."

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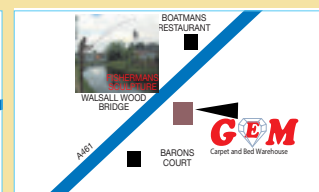
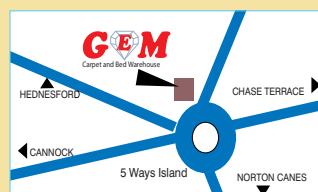
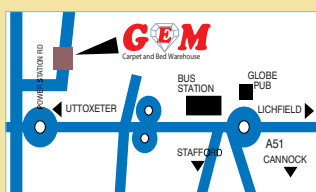
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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

AGEWELL CIC is launching a Staying Steady, Staying Safe campaign to reduce the risk of older people having a fall.

The campaign, which forms part of Agewell's community offer in Great Barr, Yew Tree and Newton (funded by Sandwell Council), is being unveiled at Agewell's weekly community exercise class for older people at St Bernard's Church in Hamstead.

Agewell is a Sandwell-based community interest company which aims to improve the quality of life for local older people and over the past year, it has helped almost 150 of them to become steadier on their feet by providing a bespoke home-based exercise programme.

There are also community-based exercise classes delivered by qualified postural stability instructors. As a result, individuals have enjoyed substantial improvements in their general health and wellbeing, their mental health, mobility, balance and confidence. Sixty-nine-year-old Stan has seen his life transformed through Agewell's work. Stan has multiple sclerosis and has struggled with his balance since undergoing heart surgery.

He was encouraged to go along to Agewell's community exercise class by a friend. After attending once a week for 20 weeks, he saw a 56 per cent improvement in his general health and wellbeing, a 26 per cent increase in his confidence and balance and an 18 per cent improvement in his mobility. "It's a winner all round," says Stan. "I live on my own so going to the class gives me



Front, Agewell's Alison Pickering and Stan Povey with the rest of the group

a reason to get out of the house." To enable even more individuals to benefit, Agewell is offering a comprehensive self-help guide. The key message is that having a fall in not an inevitable part of ageing. With the right support and advice, whether you are 65 or 95, there are a number of simple changes you can make to your lifestyle and home to help you stay safe and stay steady on your feet.

The guide includes a number of simple mobility, balance and strength exercises, and top tips for staying fit and healthy, along with details of what to do if you have a fall. Agewell is offering the guides free of charge to anyone aged 65 and over who lives in Sandwell or is registered with a Sandwell GP.

Anyone who would like a copy of the Staying Steady, Staying Safe self-help guide should call Agewell on 0121 796 9333 or email info@agewelluk.org.uk



Stan exercising at St Bernard's

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Protest branded 'waste' after meagre turnout

A MARCH by anti-Islam protesters through Walsall town centre has been branded a huge waste of police resources after dozens of demonstrators failed to show.

Fewer than 40 people from the far-right group calling themselves the United Patriots turned up for the rally on February 27 despite claims up to 150 campaigners would be marching through the streets.

Yet West Midlands Police were still required to provide a reassuring presence in the town, allocating liaison officers and regular uniformed officers to marshal the event.

Walsall Council leader Mike Bird said: "It was a total waste of police resources and public money."

"The police presence was quite heavy on the day. It is people like this who make their job more difficult."

"I am pleased to see it was a flop as it instils confidence that we know what we are doing in Walsall."

With one flag between them the bunch made their way from Leicester Street around the town via a busy St Paul's bus station. Passers-by looked on as the 'Patriots' chanted.

At the final destination Gallery Square, in the absence of a proper stage and no microphone, 18-year-old march organiser 'Liam Walsall' simply stood on a bench outside Costa and uttered a few words before the small congregation dissipated.

Addressing the group he conceded 'the numbers aren't the best' but still declared the Patriots had 'achieved what we wanted to achieve'.

Police confirmed there were no arrests although some campaigners did have to be warned after confronting people at a counter demonstration from the Stand Up to Racism and We are Walsall groups held nearby at St Paul's Church.



A police presence as far right group United Patriots march through Walsall

Sweet treats for hospital

A GRANDMOTHER whipped up some delicious treats for staff, patients and visitors at Walsall Manor Hospital to say thanks for the care her premature granddaughter received.

In just a few hours Nicola Harrison raised £402 for the hospital's neonatal unit after her cakes sold out in just an hour. Her recipes covered exotic flavours including candy floss, bubble gum and red velvet.

Granddaughter Ivy Belcher's health is now improving thanks to the neo-

natal team at Walsall Manor after she was born 12 weeks premature in November 2015. Nicola, who works as a Walsall police officer, said: "Ivy weighs just over six pounds now and she is doing so so well."

"She was admitted back to hospital last week because she had severe acid reflux, but she came out Monday."

"I actually stayed with her the one night in hospital as her mom and dad needed some well-deserved rest, but they love having her home."

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Mouse droppings takeaway is fined

THE OWNER of a restaurant in the Black Country has been hit with a court bill of nearly £3,500 after hygiene inspectors found mouse droppings in the kitchen.

Mr Raymond Man, owner of Po Wing on Harden Road, pleaded guilty to a breach of food and hygiene regulations at Walsall Magistrates Court.

It came after inspectors found droppings in the kitchen of his takeaway. Man said that he had known of a rodent problem for a month prior to the inspection last April and had been doing his best to keep it at bay, but knew very little about pest control.

The court heard that the kitchen of Po Wing had a hole in the ceiling above the sink allowing rodents access and that mouse droppings had been found on shelving.

Following the inspection, environmental health officers forced the takeaway to close immediately and get the rodent problem under control. It reopened on April 22, six days after the inspection, with officers happy that sufficient measures had been taken to address the issue.

Prosecution solicitor

By Jordan Harris

Kerry Munro said: "Officers noted that there was no pest control contract in the takeaway during their inspection. Mice spread diseases such as salmonella if they come into contact with food and all measures should be taken to prevent that from happening."

Man told the court that he had little knowledge of pest control and had signed up to a pest control contract straight away after the inspection. Man was fined £2,000, made to pay court costs of £1,337 and a victim surcharge of £120. Chief magistrate Shirley Bentley said: "We have heard everything that has been said in your defence and against you in court today and we will deal with this offence by way of a fine."

Royal approval for litter pickers



Councillor Garry Perry, teaching assistant Kelly Berry and pupils Corey Hewitt, Braydon Wells and Natasha-Leigh Talbot THE Queen joined youngsters at a school for a litter-picking session to mark Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

Children from Pelsall Village School helped clean up the area for the Clean For The Queen campaign, launched by Keep Britain Tidy. They were spoken to about the impact and costs of waste as well as how to dispose of it before going on a litter pick in Pelsall.

Councillor Garry Perry said: "When the Queen came to the throne, litter wasn't a problem because there wasn't so much disposable waste, people used to use all their food and that kind of thing. Keep Britain Tidy launched the scheme and thought it would be a nice way to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. We decided to get involved in the Pelsall area. It's been about educating the children as well as having a spring clean."

"We gave a talk in the morning about waste and how it impacts on society, how it should be disposed of properly. "We also told them how much it costs to the council and how much people can be fined if they don't get rid of their litter properly."

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A knight to remember



David Threlfall and Rufus Hound in the RSC's new production of *Don Quixote* Photo: Helen Maybanks

Don Quixote, Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon

AN UTTERLY compelling performance by David Threlfall as the befuddled and bewildered old knight, mistaking windmills for monsters and flocks of sheep for armies, will no doubt bring the former Shameless star many deserved plaudits.

His portrayal of the deluded penniless Spanish nobleman with a hopeless devotion to chivalry is a masterclass in tragi-comedy.

He launched his career at the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1980 as the tormented young Smike in *Nicholas Nickleby*, and returns 36 years later to play a man at the end of his life.

Squinting from behind his straggling beard at a hostile world, his Don

Quixote de la Mancha is clearly suffering a form of dementia. Yet he finds a marvellous dignity in his devotion to his moral code, despite the many humiliations heaped upon him from violent angry shepherds, ungrateful freed slaves and a mocking duke and duchess.

He has a fine partner in Rufus Hound as a portly padded Sancho Panza, the long-suffering peasant 'squire' who attempts, but always fails, to keep his master out of trouble.

The sight of the two of them perched upon their ramshackle steeds, plus the slapstick and in-jokes, brought to mind Monty Python. One did expect the Spanish Inquisition, which would not have been so surprising in 17th century Spain.

Director Angus Jackson, a Brum-

mie, has thrown everything but the kitchen sink (though there is a wash basin for a helmet) into this production: songs, puppets, stage fights and lots of comedy.

There are some very witty lines by James Fenton, who has adapted the classic novel by Miguel De Cervantes, who was a contemporary of William Shakespeare.

With a running time of just under three hours (including interval), maybe a couple of the songs could have been cut to make it a little more pacy.

However, it seems harsh to criticise a production with a performance as outstanding as Threlfall's poignant Quixote.

Don Quixote continues in repertoire at The Swan until May 21.

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- ✓ Optional excursion to Kew Gardens
- ✓ Single rooms subject to availability (supplement applies)

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Visit two treasures of the Royal Horticultural Society to enjoy the very best in gardening, plus visit Hampton Court Palace with over 60 acres of internationally celebrated gardens.

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DAYS: 2 DEPARTS: May 15, Aug 7



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DAYS: 2 DEPARTS: June 12



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DAYS: 4 DEPARTS: May 6, Jun 17,



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Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

DAYS: 3 DEPARTS: July 8



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- ✓ Single rooms subject to availability (supplement applies)

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744)

DAYS: 4 DEPARTS: Various dates



Pompeii, Capri and the Bay of Naples

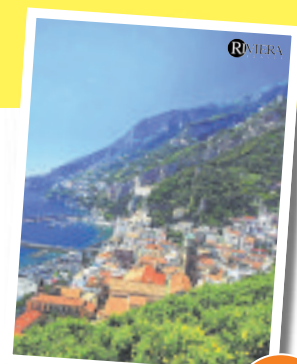
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Organised by Riviera Travel ABTA (V4744, ATOL 3430)

DAYS: 8 DEPARTS: Various dates



Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton (with the exception of holidays by air, Eurostar and certain cruises). Please note the Star Reader Travel department is unable to take bookings.

fast the ticket

Beautiful sounds Page 23

Classic theatre
Goodnight Mister Tom –
Page 23

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Mon 14 - Thurs 17 March ROOM (15) Fri 11 - Wed 16 March THE HATEFUL EIGHT (15)
Fri 18 - Weds 23 March THE MARTIAN (12A) Fri 18 March SLEAFORD MOOS plus Q&A (15)
Fri 18 - Thurs 24 March TRIPLE 9 Sun 20 - Thurs 24 March THE LADY IN THE VAN
Fri 25 - Thurs 31 March ANOMALISA Fri 25 - Thurs 31 March MARGUERITE
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Sat 26 - Weds 30 March BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: WILD TALES (inc Sat Matinee)

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Language Cafe- Brain Tumour Support - Singing for Lung Health

Willard
Wigan

James Morrison



Monday, 8pm
Symphony Hall, B'ham
Ten years on from his debut, the Rugby-born singer-songwriter returned to the live scene last year after four years away and released his fourth album Higher Than Here.
Visit www.tsh.co.uk

Craig Campbell



Friday, 7pm
Slade Rooms, W'ton
The Devon-based Canadian comic, who has supported Frankie Boyle, shares outrageous stories from his globetrotting adventures in his new stand-up show.
Visit www.wolvescivic.co.uk

Iphigenia In Splott



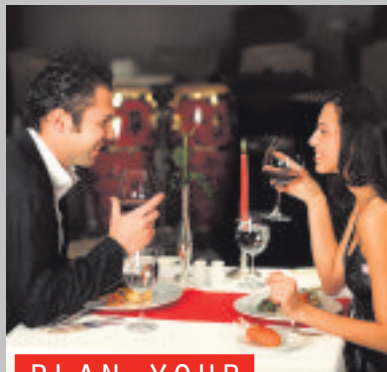
Tuesday - March 19
The Door at The Rep, B'ham
A young Welsh woman's life spirals out of control in this award-winning adults-only one-woman play by Gary Owen, based on Greek myth, featuring Sophie Melville.
Visit www.birmingham-rep.co.uk

Man Made



Tonight (Thu), 7pm
The Oobleck, B'ham
Catch this on-the-rise Manchester trio fronted by Nile Marr, son of The Smiths' guitarist Johnny Marr. They release debut album TV Broke My Brain next month.
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Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Oh Wonder
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The Institute,
Digbeth, Birmingham,
B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Blaze Bayley
Tue at 7pm,
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

The Selector
Sat at 7pm, £16.50
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,
WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

The Mersey Beatles: The Beatles Tribute
Sat at 8pm, £16.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Russ Ballard
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The Robin 2, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

QE2: Queen Tribute
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The RoadHouse Birmingham,
B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

Defeater
Mon at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
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Rumours Of Fleetwood Mac: Fleetwood Mac Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm,
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

James Morrison
Mon at 7pm, £26.50
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Flash: Queen Tribute
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The Robin 2, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Los Pacaminos
Fri at 7.30pm,
The Robin, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
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Christina Martin
Mon at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
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Josef Salvat
Fri at 6pm - 10pm, £9
O2 Academy Birmingham,
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Grimes - POSTPONED
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Birmingham, B5 6DY.
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Natty
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O2 Academy Birmingham,
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Call 0121 622 8250

The Stranglers
Sat at 7pm, £24
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Tyketto
Sat at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Los Endos - Ultimate Genesis: Genesis Tribute
Sat at 6.30pm - 10.30pm,
£15
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Tragedy: The Bee Gees Tribute
Wed at 8pm
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms
WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Yves Lambert Trio
Mon at 7.30pm - 10.30pm,
Kitchen Garden Cafe,
King's Heath, Birmingham,
B14 7SA.
Call 0121 443 4725

Mark Radcliffe's Galleon Blast
Thu at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,
WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

The Arthur Doherty Band
Tue at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman
Fri at 8pm - 11pm,
The Glee Club,
Birmingham, B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Nathan Carter
Sun at 7.30pm, £24
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

CLASSIC & OTHER MUSIC

CBSO 2015-16 - Friday Night Classics: Symphonic Disco Spectacular
Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £47
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Francesco Piemontesi In Recital
Wed at 7.30pm - 10pm,
£9.50 - £28
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

Gildas Quartet & Jack McNeill
Fri at 1.10pm,
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,
University of Birmingham,
B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

Oslo Philharmonic
Sat at 7.30pm - 10pm,
£9.50 - £50
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Grand Organ Gala
Sun at 3pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

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Barber Institute of Fine Arts,
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Sun at 3pm,
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,
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CBSO 2015-16 - Elgar's Second
Thu at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
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B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Musical Picnic (Ages 0-7)
Sat at 10.30am,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

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Birmingham, B30 2LU.
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42nd Street
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,
7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at
7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at
7.30pm,
The Rose Theatre,
Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

Thriller Live
Fri at 5pm, 8.30pm, Sat at 4pm,
8pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Goodnight Mister Tom
Tue at 7pm, Wed at 1.30pm, 7pm,
Thu at 1.30pm, 7pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Alice In Wonderland
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 7pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

The Best Thing
Thu at 8pm - 10pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road,
Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Of Mice And Men
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,
7.30pm, £8.50 - £35
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Fame: The Musical: Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm,
7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

M6 Theatre: Tadpoles (Over 5s)
Sat at 11.30am, 2pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,
B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Iphigenia In Splott
Tue at 8pm, Wed at 8pm, Thu at
8pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Hetty Feather
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 1pm, 5.30pm,
£14 - £24
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,
B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Mary Poppins
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,
7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at
7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, 7.30pm,
Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £25.55 -
£30.60
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

TALKS

The Legacy Of Guano
Thu at 6pm - 7.30pm,
Ikona Gallery, Birmingham,
B1 2HS.
Call 0121 248 0708

Ray Mears: Tales Of Endurance
Sat at 7.30pm - 10pm,
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

COMEDY

The Best In Live Stand-up Comedy
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 7pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Richard Herring: Happy Now?
Tue at 6.45pm - 11pm, £15
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Mark Watson: I'm Not Here
Sun at 6.45pm - 11pm,
The Glee Club,
Birmingham, B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Romesh Ranganathan: Irrational
Fri at 8pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Comedy Carousel & The Real Food Canteen
Thu at 7pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Ken Dodd: The Happiness Show
Sun at 7pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Craig Campbell: Don't Look Down
Friday, 7.30pm
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,
WV1 1RQ
Call 0870 320 7000

CLUBBING

Andrew Weatherall
Sat - Sun at 9pm - 3am,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Graeme Park
Fri at 9pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

OTHER EVENTS

Hobbycrafts
Thu from 9am
The NEC Birmingham,
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair
Wed at 9.30am - 4pm, Thu at
9.30am - 4pm,
The NEC Birmingham,
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Cruffs
Fri at 8.15am - 6.30pm, Sat at
8.15am - 6.30pm, Sun at 8.15am
- 6.30pm,
The NEC Birmingham,
B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

Beautiful sound of Paul and Jacqui



Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbot from The Beautiful South are reunited and will be playing in Birmingham tonight

THEIR comeback was one of the biggest stories of recent years. Erstwhile Beautiful South stars Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott have enjoyed a string of sell-out shows.

Their new album, *Wisdom, Laughter And Lines*, was released in October. And the duo are back on the road for a major UK tour, including the

O2 Academy in Birmingham tonight (Thursday).

Their second album together celebrates life's simple pleasures and mixes the political with the personal. Heaton and Abbott have created a formidable partnership. Their voices fit together like hand and glove.

Heaton has the ability to write songs about almost anything but has said he has always struggled to write "out and out" love songs.

"I always struggled to write about love. I did get better with things like *You Keep It All In* and *I'll Sail This Ship Alone* when I was in *The Beautiful South*. But I still struggled to write an out and out love song."

"It's funny considering that my two favourite songwriters are Smokey Robinson and Elvis Costello, who both specialise in writing songs about love. I could never nail it myself but I think that I have got a lot better."

Emotional Mister Tom

A POWERFUL stage production of popular children's novel Goodnight Mister Tom, in which a reclusive grump is given a new lease of life by a wartime evacuee, is coming to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre.

Director Angus Jackson has brought to life Michelle Magorian's emotional family-favourite story in an award-winning adaptation by David Wood that will be staged from Tuesday to Saturday, March 19.

The book, first published in 1981, was turned into a television film starring John Thaw in 1998.

This latest touring production also has star quality with popular RSC/National Theatre, radio and television actor David Troughton as Mister Tom.

David, son of 1960s Doctor Who Patrick Troughton, will be a familiar voice to fans of BBC Radio 4 soap *The Archers*, in which he plays Tony Archer. His TV roles have included Dr Buzzard in *A Very Peculiar Practice*, Ricky Hansen in *New Tricks*, Sgt Harvey in *Jericho* and Stan in *Sky's The Cafe*. He is also father of actors Sam and William Troughton, and of Warwickshire cricketer Jim Troughton.

Birmingham-raised director Jackson, whose theatre career began as an usher at the Symphony Hall, has also directed the Royal Shakespeare Company's new production of *Don Quixote*, with David Threlfall and Rufus Hound, which is currently being performed in Stratford-upon-Avon at The Swan Theatre.

New music acts worth discovering

THE pick of the new and emerging acts to be heard this week include Mancunian trio *Man Made* at Birmingham's The O2 Academy (near The Custard Factory in Digbeth) tonight. Tomorrow Grimes takes her *Acid Reign* Tour to the O2 Academy and Karl Monroe have a hometown headline slot at the O2 Institute.

Acclaimed Welsh songstress Gweno is at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath tomorrow and Albrighton singer-songwriter Richi Jones launches his *Into The Fire* EP at the same venue on Monday. Liverpool trio Elevant bring their sonic squall to The Actress and Bishop in the Jewellery Quarter on Saturday.

Old favourites are back on the circuit

AFTER five years Liverpool outfit The Coral are back with eighth album, *Distance Inbetween*, and a gig at Birmingham's O2 Institute tonight (Thursday). The same venue hosts Reef tomorrow night.

Pauline Black brings The Selector to Wolverhampton Slade Rooms on Saturday, the same night punk veterans The Strangers play classic 1978 album *Black And White* at Birmingham O2 Academy. At Bilston's Robin 2, Fragile with Claire Hamill present a tribute to Yes tonight, Paul Young does his Tex-Mex thing with Los Pacaminos tomorrow and New York rockers Tyketto play Saturday.

Fame success is mirrored by actors

A HIGH energy new production of *Fame* by Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company is being staged at the city's Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, March 19.

The musical, based on the hit 1980 movie, is set at New York's School of Performing Arts and follows four students through ups and downs from their first audition to graduation.

The production is also a swansong for talented Wolverhampton actors Luke Bennett and Liam Sargeant. Luke, 17, is off to stage school in London and 20-year-old Liam is to study English Language and Literature at Oxford University.

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CHOICE



Phillip Schofield

You're Back in the Room (ITV, 8.30pm)
New series. Phillip Schofield returns with the comedy game show in which five must team up to win a potential £25,000 by completing apparently simple challenges. However, to claim their prize, the contestants must overcome the hypnotic trance they have been placed under by celebrity mesmerist Keith Barry. For this first edition, Phillip and Keith are joined by Andrea McLean, Sherrie Hewson, Linda Robson, Nadia Sawalha and Kaye Adams – the ladies of Loose Women – who will be pampered by the hypnotised contestants.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Flog It! (R) **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.00** BBC News. **5.10** Regional Programme. **5.20** Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup. Everton v Chelsea (Kick-off 5.30pm).
7.30 **The Voice UK.** The battle stages are now over, and Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson each now have a complete team of would-be stars under their tutelage. The next challenge the contestants face is the first stage of the knock-outs, in which they must carefully select and perform a "killer song" that will elevate them above their team rivals, as the coaches whittle their eight chosen singers down to three.
8.45 **The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List.** Retired publicans Ray and Diane from Chelmsford, Essex, build a wish-list that incorporates a number of item that celebrate their 40 years of marriage, and Shane Richie offers them a chance to win their dream prizes by answering questions in a selection of tricky categories. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws, presented by Gabby Roslin.
9.35 **Casualty.** The repercussions of the defibrillator accident continue to reverberate for Lofy, who must face the consequences of his actions by explaining the chain of events at a hearing. When the opportunity to help Lana arrives, he decides to skip his meeting and lend her a hand instead. Meanwhile, Cal hijacks an ambulance to take Ethan and his ailing mother to an old family holiday destination, and while there, the brothers decide to finally read the results from the genetics lab. Medical drama, starring Lee Mead.
10.25 **BBC News:** Weather.
10.45 **Match of the Day.** Highlights of the latest Premier League fixtures, including Norwich City v Manchester City at Carrow Road; National Lottery Update.
11.30 **Film: The Ring.** (2002) Horror remake, with Naomi Watts.
1.15 **Weather for the Week Ahead.** **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

8.10 **Film:** Station West. (1948) **9.40** **Film:** The Master of Ballantrae. (1953) **11.10** Natural World. (R) **12.00** Rick Stein's India. (R) **1.00** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **1.30** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **2.00** **Film:** An Ideal Husband. (1999) Oscar Wilde comedy drama. **3.30** Coast. (R) **4.15** The TV That Made Me. (R) **5.00** Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R)
6.00 **Gardeners' World.** (R)
6.30 **Queen Victoria's Children.** The concluding episode focuses on the monarch's sons, examining how they struggled to assert themselves in the shadow of their father. It explores Victoria's difficult relationships with the eldest, Bertie, whose sexual indiscretions she blamed for having fatally weakened her husband's health, and Leopold, who put up the most determined effort to break free from his mother's control. Last in the series. (R)
7.30 **Back in Time for the Weekend.** The Ashby-Hawkins family discovers what the future might hold for people's free time. As they reflect on their time-travelling experience, they also reveal how living in the past has changed, how they feel about the present and their hopes for the future. The family have some robotic housework help, and Steph and Rob try a futuristic gym fad, "Immersive Fitness". Meanwhile, Seth embraces some cutting-edge technology that takes him away from using screens, and Daisy tries a new-age camera that records her day without cutting her off from her friends. Last in the series. (R)
8.30 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring camps the platoon in the middle of a firing range, forcing Corporal Jones to make a desperate effort to raise the alarm. Starring Arthur Lowe and Clive Dunn. (R)
9.00 **Stag.** Johnners' stags have been reduced to four, and the survivors realise they must make a final stand if they are to avoid sharing their friends' grisly fate. Last in the series.
10.00 **Film: The Talented Mr Ripley.** (1999) Anthony Minghella's thriller, with Matt Damon.
12.10 Line of Duty. (R) **2.10** **Film:** The Salton Sea. (2002) **3.45** This Is BBC Two. **5.45** Great British Garden Revival. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITY: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.15** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Looped. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Jessie. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.24** Regional Programme. **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v Italy (Kick-off 1.30pm). **3.25** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. England v Wales (Kick-off 4.00pm). Coverage of the second match from the fourth and penultimate round of fixtures, which comes from Twickenham. An injury-hit Wales secured a memorable 28-25 victory at this venue when the sides last met during the 2015 World Cup. England held a 16-9 half-time lead, but their opponents produced a fine second half display to turn the match around and eventually qualify for the knockout stages at the hosts' expense. However, England made a strong start to this campaign and will be hopefully of gaining revenge in this contest.
6.30 **Regional Programme:** Weather.
6.45 **ITV News:** Weather.
7.00 **Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** The duo are joined by Craig David for the big finale of this week's show. Mel B interviews dogsitters in I'm a Celebrity, Get Out of Me Earl, while Little Ant and Dec chat to Jennifer Lawrence and The Hunger Games co-stars. Another lucky player has the chance to win all the items advertised in the break.
8.30 **You're Back in the Room.** New series. Phillip Schofield returns with the game show in which five strangers are hypnotised by Keith Barry, then asked to complete simple tasks in the hope of winning £25,000.
9.30 **The Jonathan Ross Show.** Actress Glenn Close, comedy actor and writer Marlon Wayans and X-Files star Gillian Anderson take a seat on Jonathan's sofa.
10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.
10.45 **Film: Moonraker.** (1979) Spy adventure, starring Roger Moore.
1.20 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.55** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** MSA British Rally Championship. **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Superhumans Show. **11.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Wolverhampton.
4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R)
6.10 **Come Dine with Me.** On the final day of the competition in south-east London it is part-time event organiser Gina's turn to throw a dinner party. She rolls out an evening of fine dining inspired by her love of cookery courses, but her culinary prowess fails to make an impact on Vincenzo, as he reveals he already ate dinner at home due to his belief that women can't cook. Meanwhile, Leah reveals a surprising beauty secret from her youth during the main course, before a self-penned poem from the host brings tears to David's eyes, and the winner is revealed. (R)
6.35 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **Crufts 2016.** Clare Balding hosts further coverage from the second day of the prestigious annual dog show, which this year is celebrating its 125th anniversary. Presenting live from the NEC in Birmingham, Clare is joined by Supernet Professor Noel Fitzpatrick to discuss advances in the field of canine health, and answer viewers' questions. Plus, the host introduces judging in the Working and Pastoral groups.
9.00 **Lee Evans – Monsters.** The energetic stand-up star rails against the annoyances of modern life, in a performance recorded at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham in 2014. Lee's routine sees him tackling the selfie phenomenon, the problems associated with getting older, and the numerous ways he tries to keep his long-suffering wife happy.
10.00 **Film: Riddick.** (2013) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Katee Sackhoff.
12.20 **Film: Kick-Ass.** (2010) **2.25** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.30** Ultimate Dealer. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.45** The Fairly OddParents. **9.20** The Saturday Show Live. **11.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Pets Who Hate Vets. (R) **2.15** Psycho Pussies: When Cats Attack. (R) **3.15** 90 Cats and Counting: Cat Crazy. (R) **4.15** Kitten Impossible. (R) **5.10** 41 Dogs in a 3-Bed Semi. (R)
6.10 **Now That's Funny!** A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world. (R)
7.10 **5 News Weekend.**
7.15 **World War II in Colour.** The edition focuses on the final days of Hitler and the Third Reich as German forces were surrounded by Soviet troops from the east and the Allies' advance from the west. (R)
8.10 **The Gadget Show.** Oris and Jon take on delivery service Amazon Prime using a selection of the latest transport technology, and mobility scooter inventor Colin Furze reveals his latest projects. (R)
9.00 **The Championship: Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches from the Championship, including Huddersfield Town v Burnley.
10.00 **Goal Rush: Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present highlights from the League One and League Two, including Burton Albion v Fleetwood Town at the Pirelli Stadium.
10.30 **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Stabler and Benson investigate the death of a 17-year-old girl and discover a suspect in the case may have been deliberately passing on the HIV virus to his many sexual partners. (R)
11.20 **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Benson and Stabler have to tread carefully when they investigate the deaths of a wealthy couple and find themselves playing a game of politics and double bluff. (R)
12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **4.00** Carry on Caravanning. (R) **4.50** Divine Designs. (R) **5.20** HouseBusters. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Human Planet **8.00** Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **9.00** Trapped **10.40** From Andy Pandy to Zebibee: The Golden Age of Children's TV **11.40** Duets at the BBC **12.40** Sound of Cinema: The Music That Made the Movies **1.40** Top of the Pops: 1981 **2.20** Top of the Pops: 1981 **2.55** Virtuoso Violinists at the BBC **3.55** Close **ITV2**
11.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **12.45** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **1.40** The Scorpion **2.35** Film: Nancy Drew (2007) **4.40** Catchphrase **5.45** Film: Legally Blonde (2001) **7.40** Film: Back to the Future Part III (1990) **10.00** The Keith Lemon Sketch Show **10.30** Family Guy **12.00** American Dad! **12.55** Ibiza Weekender **1.50** Beowulf: Return to the Shielands **2.40** Rixton: The Hot Desk **2.50** Teleshopping **ITV3**
6.55 Midsomer Murders **11.00** A Touch of Frost **1.05** Blue Murder **2.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**
11.45 Storage Wars **12.45** Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The opening semi-final. **5.15** Storage Wars **5.45** Storage Wars: Texas **6.45** Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The second semi-final. **11.15** Live FIA Formula E Championship. The Mexico City ePrix. **1.15** Hell on Wheels **2.15** Motorway Patrol **2.25** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**
11.30 The Jump: The Final **1.05** The Goldbergs **3.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Limitless (2011) A failed writer acquires a drug that increases his brain power, but his new abilities attract dangerous attention. Sci-fi thriller, starring Bradley Cooper. **11.05** Tattoo Fixers **12.05** Gogglebox **2.15** The 100 **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **3.45** Rules of Engagement **4.55** Revenue **Film4**
11.00 New in Town (2009) **1.00** Tooth Fairy (2010) **3.00** Five Children and It (2004) **4.45** Home Alone 3 (1997) **6.55** Admission (2013) **9.00** 2 Guns (2013) Two undercover agents become fugitives after a disastrous sting, but each thinks the other is a real criminal. Action adventure, with Denzel Washington. **11.10** Magic Magic (2013) Premiere. A woman suffers from insomnia while on holiday in Chile, causing her grip on reality to weaken as she succumbs to paranoia. Thriller, with Juno Temple and Michael Cera. **1.15** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **3.05** Close

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CHOICE



Nimesh Patel

Indian Summers (Channel 4, 9pm)
New series. The drama series set in 1930s colonial India returns, picking up the story three years on from the first series. The British viceroy is seriously injured in a terrorist attack. Aafin is suspected of being involved and tries to keep his double life as a nationalist spy a secret. He discovers Alice has now married an Englishman, but their feelings for each other remain unresolved. Cynthia pushes Ralph to advance his career, but Madeleine has other plans.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 8.15 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Regional Programme. 12.15 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 The TV That Made Me. 2.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union, Scotland v France** (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.05 Songs of Praise. 5.40 Pointless Celebrities.** (R) **6.30 BBC News. 6.50 Regional Programme. 7.00 Countryfile.** Adam Henson visits Aberystwyth University to meet students who are working towards a career in farming, and takes a look at some features on young farmers from past episodes. Highlights include Matt Baker meeting twin sisters looking to break into farming, Helen Skelton chatting to a farmer who became the world darts champion, and Radio 1 DJs Scott Mills and Chris Stark working at Vauxhall City Farm. Including Weather for The Week Ahead. **8.00 Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents an episode focused on Indian art and culture from the Neasden Temple in North London, revealing the connections between British and Indian history. Among the artefacts being valued are ceremonial robes used in the Delhi Durbar, a ring given to a boy by a princess, a Rolls Royce made for the Maharajah of Jodhpur and a bracelet found in a children's toy box that turns out to have a surprising background. **9.00 The Night Manager.** Pine gets involved in an arms deal, but his relationship with Jed jeopardises his cover. Burr begins to suspect that Roper has been buying arms from the British government. **10.00 BBC News. 10.20 Regional Programme. 10.30 Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's only Premier League fixture, which was Aston Villa v Tottenham Hotspur at Villa Park. **11.00 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the sixth round, including this afternoon's clash between Manchester United and West Ham United. **11.30 Film: It's a Wonderful Afterlife.** (2010) Supernatural comedy, starring Shabana Azmi. **12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.50 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.45 An Island Parish. (R) **7.15 This Farming Life.** (R) **8.15 Gardeners' World.** (R) **8.45 Countryfile.** (R) **9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.15 The Best Dishes Ever. 11.45 Winter Youth Olympic Games. 12.15 MOTD Extra. 1.00 Homes Under the Hammer.** (R) **2.00 Escape to the Continent.** (R) **3.00 Film: Strictly Ballroom.** (1992) Australian dance comedy, starring Paul Mercurio. **4.30 Gymnastics World Cup. 6.00 Flag III** Mark Stacey and Adam Partridge value items in Bangor, north Wales, including a collection of thimbles and an antique sextant. Presenter Paul Martin also explores one of Thomas Telford's feats of engineering when he visits the Menai Suspension Bridge. (R) **7.00 Who's the Boss?** (R) **8.00 Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge.** Part two of two. The naturalist reaches the peak of one of Venezuela's tepui mountains, before joining a party of Italian cavers as they venture into the unexplored caverns within. Inside, they discover strange wildlife and evidence of the geological forces that give the tepuis their unusual shape. Finally, the team returns to the ground by abseiling down the Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall. **9.00 Let's Play Darts for Sport Relief 2016.** Gabby Logan hosts the final of the charity darts challenge from the Lakeside, Frimley Green, in which professional players team up with celebrities. She is joined by all the competitors to take part in the earlier rounds, who look back on their performances and the highs and lows of the tournament. Last in the series. **10.00 Thirteen.** Ivy is put under pressure to relive her ordeal, but her responses make Merchant suspicious that she is lying. She turns to Tim for support, only to suffer a crushing betrayal. **11.00 The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story.** Prosecutor Marcia Clark faces negative feedback, while differing goals divide the defence team as preliminary hearings and arduous jury selection get underway. (R) **11.50 Film: The Magdalene Sisters.** (2002) Drama, starring Geraldine McEwan, Anne-Marie Duff and Eileen Walsh. **1.45 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R) **2.40 Holby City.** (R) **3.40 This is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITY: Bottom Knockor Street. 6.15 Bottom Knockor Street. (R) **6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) **6.45 Signed Stories: Share a Story.** (R) **6.50 Sooty.** (R) **7.05 Super 4.** (R) **7.15 Looped.** (R) **7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled!** **7.35 Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) **7.50 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry.** (R) **8.10 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters.** **8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School.** **9.05 Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show.** (R) **9.25 Formula E Highlights. 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **12.30 ITV News; Weather. 12.40 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **1.45 River Monsters.** (R) **2.45 Big Star's Little Star.** (R) **3.45 Off Their Rockers.** (R) **4.15 Film: For Your Eyes Only.** (1981) James Bond spy thriller, starring Roger Moore. **6.35 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.45 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands.** Rheda escapes from her captors in Bregan, only to find that Abreca's army is closing in on her kingdom, and he has gathered many allies to help him in his plan to take over Herot. A last minute intervention from Slean may ward off disaster, but Rheda realises she must make a great sacrifice to persuade an old foe to help her. **8.00 The Story of Cats.** How cats went from wild predators to domestic pets, exploring why humans are inclined to find kittens cute and how future generations of cats may lose their hunting instincts. **9.00 Doctor Thorne.** Sir Roger falls seriously ill and is likely to die soon. His son arrives in town, and to Dr Thorne's horror, takes a liking to Mary. Miss Dunstable urges Frank to follow his heart. **10.00 ITV News; Weather. 10.15 Houdini & Doyle.** New series. Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini help police investigate the case of a nun allegedly killed by a ghost. **11.15 Six Nations Highlights.** Action from the fourth round of the championship, with highlights of England v Wales at Twickenham, Ireland v Italy at the Aviva Stadium and Scotland v France at Murrayfield. **12.15 Jackpot247. 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40 The King of Queens.** (R) **7.05 The King of Queens.** (R) **7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.25 Frasier.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** (R) **1.30 Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days.** (2012) Family comedy sequel, starring Zachary Gordon. **3.20 Film: Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief.** (2010) **5.40 Channel 4 News. 6.00 The Secret Life of the Zoo.** Cameras follow Chester Zoo's four new fledgling Humboldt penguins who are being brought up apart from the main colony until they're old enough to compete for fish in the main pool. They're keen to make a break for it and join the adults, but when they're finally free to go they have other ideas. Elsewhere, Niall the chimpanzee keeper has known chimp Boris for 44 years. When the ape captures a moorhen chick, Niall must use his powers of persuasion to negotiate the safe release of his hostage. (R) **7.00 Crufts 2016.** Clare Balding hosts coverage of the final day of the 125th annual dog show from the NEC in Birmingham. Highlights of the day's main arena events include the winner of the Friends for Life competition, the Flyball and International Agility finals, judging of the Terrier and Hound groups and the announcement of Best in Show 2016. Plus discussion of canine health and welfare with from Professor Noel Fitzpatrick, Kate Bevan and Nick Blayney. Last in the series. **9.00 Indian Summers.** New series. The drama series set in 1930s colonial India returns, picking up the story three years on from the first series. The British viceroy is seriously injured in a terrorist attack. Aafin is suspected of being involved and tries to keep his double life as a nationalist spy a secret. He discovers Alice has now married an Englishman, but their feelings for each other remain unresolved. Cynthia pushes Ralph to advance his career, but Madeleine has other plans. **10.00 Film: Slumdog Millionaire.** (2008) Danny Boyle's Oscar-winning drama, with Dev Patel. **12.20 The Last Leg.** (R) **1.20 Embarrassing Bodies Down Under.** (R) **2.15 Come Dine with Me.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.15 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **6.30 Bob the Builder.** (R) **6.45 Ticky Toc.** (R) **6.55 Zack and Quack.** (R) **7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too.** (R) **7.15 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.25 Paw Patrol.** (R) **7.35 Little Princess.** (R) **7.50 Pip Ahoy!** (R) **8.05 Blaze and the Monster Machines.** (R) **8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **8.50 Wanda and the Alien.** (R) **9.05 Toby's Travelling Circus.** (R) **9.20 Jelly Jam.** (R) **9.35 LazyTown.** (R) **9.55 The Fairly OddParents.** **10.30 The Championship: Football League Tonight.** (R) **11.30 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight.** (R) **12.00 Film: Zathura: A Space Adventure.** (2005) Family sci-fi adventure, starring Josh Hutcherson and Jonah Bobo. **2.00 Film: Big Mommas.** Like Father, Like Son. (2011) **4.15 Film: Flubber.** (1997) Children's comedy remake, starring Robin Williams. **6.00 Now That's Funny!** A collection of internet sourced video clips with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world. **7.00 Budgies Make You Laugh Out Loud.** Compilation of internet videos featuring the antics of budgies and other birds, from flying fails to performing parrots and real-life angry birds. **8.00 Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas.** Simon Pegg joins one of this episode's contestants on stage to assist with an illusion involving a wind-up watch. Plus, a selection of card tricks, including one that uses a violin. **8.55 5 News Weekend. 9.00 Film: Jonah Hex.** (2010) Premiere. A disgraced bounty hunter able to communicate with spirits of the dead is captured by the Government who offer him a deal. In return for his freedom, he must defeat a plan to take over the country that is being masterminded by the man who killed his family and left him horribly scarred. Fantasy Western, starring Josh Brolin. **10.20 Film: Angels & Demons.** (2009) Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to search for four kidnapped men in line to become Pope. Thriller sequel, starring Tom Hanks. **12.50 Tattos Disasters UK.** (R) **1.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 Benefits by the Sea: Jaywick.** (R) **4.00 Wildlife SOS.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Jigs & Wigs: The Extreme World of Irish Dancing **7.30 What Do Artists Do All Day?** **8.00 Pappano's Classical Voices** **9.00 Horizon:** Secrets of the Solar System **10.00 The Sky at Night** **10.30 Film: In the House** (2012) **12.10 Len Goodman's Big Band Bonanza** **1.10 A Blackpool Big Band Boogie:** Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra **2.10 The Story of British Pathe** **3.10 What Do Artists Do All Day?** **3.40 Close**
ITV2
11.55 Take Me Out **12.55 Film:** Nancy Drew (2007) **3.00 Film:** The Incredible Hulk (2008) **5.05 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway** **6.45 Film:** Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) **9.00 Ibiza Weekend** **10.00 Family Guy** **10.30 Bordertown** **11.00 Family Guy** **12.00 American Dad!** **12.55 The Cleveland Show** **1.55 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.15** **Teleshopping 5.45** **ITV2 Nightscreen**
ITV3
11.50 Wycliffe **12.55 Lewis** **7.00 Midsomer Murders** **9.00 Carry On Forever** **10.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium** **11.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Donny Osmond** **12.00 Like Father, Like Son** **2.45 May the Best House Win** **4.25 On the Buses** **5.20 Judge Judy**
ITV4
12.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The opening session of the final. **5.15 Storage Wars** **6.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix.** The second session of the final. **11.15 Film:** Above the Law (1988) **1.20 Ax Men** **2.20 Motorway Patrol** **2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00 Teleshopping**
E4
12.30 The Goldbergs **2.30 Film:** Big (1988) **4.35 The Big Bang Theory** **9.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD** **10.00 Tattoo Fixers** **12.00 Rude Tube** **1.10 Virtually Famous** **2.00 The Aliens** **2.55 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD** **3.40 Holyoaks**
Film4
1.00 Aliens in the Attic (2009) **2.40 Unidentified Flying Oddball** (1979) **4.30 Rat Race** (2001) **6.50 The Three Musketeers** (2011) **9.00 A Good Day to Die Hard** (2013) John McClane goes to Moscow and helps his CIA agent son stop the Russian Mob from stealing nuclear weapons. Action adventure sequel, with Bruce Willis. **10.50 Pusher** (2012) A drug dealer ends up in debt to a sadistic gangster and faces a race against time to pay back the money. Crime thriller remake, starring Richard Coyle. **12.35 Underworld: Awakening** (2012) **2.15 Adam & Paul** (2004) **4.00 Close**

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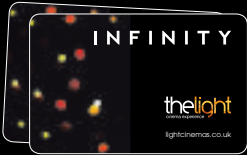
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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

A Mother Betrayed, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Five years after her husband is run off the road and killed by a mysterious driver, the head of a prosperous architectural firm decides to remarry. However, she's unaware that her new spouse has a devious plan to steal her daughter, her sanity and even her life. Psychological thriller, starring Lynn Collins, Adam Kaufman and Joanna Cassidy. (2015)

TUESDAY

After All These Years, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman learns her husband intends to leave her for another woman shortly before their wedding anniversary. She goes on the run after becoming a suspect when he is found murdered, intending to identify the real killer with the aid of her friends and an old flame. Mystery, starring Wendie Malick and Gregory Harrison. (2013)

WEDNESDAY

Damaged, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A high-school teacher's life is turned upside down when a new student moves into the area and they develop a mutual attraction for each other, leading to a string of undesirable events. Thriller, starring Chris Klein, Merritt Patterson and Tasya Teles. (2014)



For Your Eyes Only, Friday, ITV, 11.10pm

THURSDAY

Nightmare 911, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A police 911 operator is fired after mistaking a real murder for a prank call, and feeling guilty for allowing the crime to happen, she sets out to find the killer herself before he or she strikes again. Thriller, starring Fiona Glover, Carole Bouquet, Jill Bennett and Lynn-Holly Johnson. (2015)

FRIDAY

For Your Eyes Only, ITV, 11.10pm

James Bond goes in search of a British weapons system aboard a sunken vessel before it falls into the hands of enemies who will use it to deactivate all Western submarines. Unfortunately, his mission is hindered by a crossbow-toting woman out to avenge her father's murder. Spy thriller, starring Roger Moore, Topol, Julian Glover, Carole Bouquet, Jill Bennett and Lynn-Holly Johnson. (1981)

Famous faces do their bit for a good cause

It may not be quite as big as Comic Relief and Children in Need, but Sport Relief can claim to be TV's most painful telethon.

In the years since its inception in 2002, athletes and celebrities have been falling over themselves (sometimes literally) to push their bodies to the limits while raising massive amounts of cash.

In 2006, David Walliams's swim across the Channel grabbed the headlines, and he's since swam the Strait of Gibraltar and the River Thames.

Groups of celebrities have accomplished feats such as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End, while Christine Bleakley, Davina McCall and Helen Skelton have all accomplished amazing events.

But the most impressive of all is Eddie Izzard. He ran 43 marathons in 51 days in 2010 – this time around he's been attempting to complete 27 such runs in as many days, to mark the number of years Nelson Mandela spent in prison.

Oh yes, and he's been doing it in South Africa, where it has often been 30 degrees by 10am. We'll get to see how he did in this programme, as well as how much money he raised.

Other famous faces who have been pushing themselves to the limits include Radio 1's Greg James, who completed five triathlons in five days in the middle of winter, while Jo Brand walked across the country from Hull to Liverpool, in often appalling weather.

This evening, at east London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, leading lights from the worlds of sport, music and entertainment will gather to see how more athletes and celebrities can inspire us to hand over our cash.

Top of the bill is Michael Crawford, who will reprise his 1970s role as calamity-prone Frank Spencer in a one-off Some Mothers Do Awe'Em sketch that will see the hapless character in a number of calamitous escapades culminating in a chance meeting with cycling legend Bradley Wiggins.

Steve Redgrave and Andrew Flintoff don their kits once more for an edition

of the sports challenge Clash of the Titans. They will lead teams that will also include Darren Gough, Paddy McGuinness, Harry Judd, Sophie Raworth and Hugh Dennis.

The show will also feature live music performances, including the first performance of the official charity single, while famous faces including Danny Dyer, Marvin and Rochelle Humes show how the money raised could help change lives both here in the UK and around the world.

Members of the public have also been encouraged to take part in the Sport Relief Mile, Swimathon and Cycle which will see people all over the UK raising money through sponsorship from their friends and family.

But if putting on your tracksuit and trainers and spending a few minutes huffing and puffing in your local park isn't your cup of tea, then settle down in front of the TV for five and a half hours of entertainment – and make sure you have your credit card handy so you can pledge money to some of the worthy causes featured in between the fun and games.



Fundraising fun, Sport Relief 2016, Friday, BBC1, 7pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Only Connect Sport Relief Special

BBC2, 8.30pm

When it comes to taxing the old grey matter, Victoria Coren Mitchell's quiz could win gold if there was a cerebral gymnastics contest at the Olympics. So it's a good job some of the smartest folks in the media and showbusiness have been assembled for this charity edition of the contest. Hugh Dennis, musician Julian Lloyd Webber and writer Lynne Truss take on writer and comedian David Baddiel, poet John Cooper Clarke and novelist Philippa Gregory. Can they make the connection between a series of eclectic clues? Will Lynne's team play, win and leave, or will they be eclipsed by David and company? And just what is the connection between Donkey, Xanthus, Balaam's ass and Mister Ed? There's only one way to find out.

TUESDAY

Inside Obama's White House

BBC2, 9pm

For millions of folks, religious or otherwise, Easter is synonymous with food, whether it's hot cross buns or novelty chocolate eggs. Taking a break from her Great British Bake Off duties, Mary Berry takes a closer look at the connection between faith and food

at one of the most important times on the Christian calendar. And if you're lacking inspiration on what to rustle up over the Easter holidays, then rest assured that the beloved baker will be sharing some of her own favourite recipes, including Simnel cake, roast lamb, and hot cross buns. In episode one, Mary discovers the traditions followed by diverse British families and communities during Lent and Good Friday, and the food that unites them.

WEDNESDAY

Brendan O'Carroll: My Family at War

BBC2, 9pm

Writer and comedian Brendan O'Carroll tells the story of the Irish Easter Rising, in which 1,600 Irish rebels took over the centre of Dublin in Easter week 1916. Despite overwhelming odds, the rebels held out against the forces of the British Empire for six days until they were driven into submission. Three of the rebels were O'Carroll's uncles, and on the centenary of the revolt, he looks into the part his family played in it, and explores how the Rising signalled the birth of today's Republic of Ireland.



Brendan O'Carroll: My Family at War, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

THURSDAY

The Secret History of My Family

BBC2, 8pm

The documentary charting social history by exploring different family trees continues with the story of Lavinia and Florence, two Victorian women from opposite ends of the social scale who were brought together by domestic violence. One was desperate to feed her six children in 1880s London, the other came from a lavish county home and ventured into the slum to help a fellow mother. The film tells the saga of a woman from the workhouse whose descendant ended up at Eton and a family from the landed gentry who threw off the burden of their past.

FRIDAY

Unreported World

Channel 4, 7.30pm

New series. For the first of the programme's 31st series of hard-hitting reports, Marcel Theroux and his director Victoria Bell head to Malaysia, where the government has declared transgender people to be enemies of Islam. The pair meets the transwomen who are being forced to live in what human rights groups claim is one of the worst places in the world to be transgender. The duo also accompany members of the country's religious police force as officers crack down on anything they consider to be un-Islamic.


NCIS

Channel 5, 9.55pm

The NCIS team is assigned to a joint terrorism task force by the Secretary when a Moscow-born scientist who it is believed may have been targeted by the Russians for selling state secrets, is found dead. The trail appears to lead to a friend of Sofia's, another scientist who worked for Russia and who may have succumbed to professional jealousy. However, when she too is found dead, the team discovers the hallmarks of Sergei Mishnev, the terrorist who nearly killed Gibbs. Starring Mark Harmon, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette.

Easter Days out

Where would you like to take the family this Easter?



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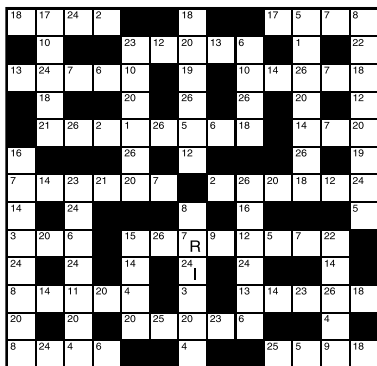
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

L D U B S H P V K Z O J T
M Y N W C Q I G E X R A F

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

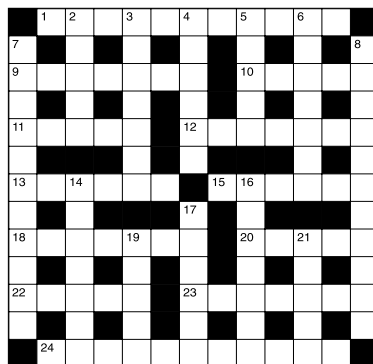
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Make up the deficiency with a denture, perhaps (5,3,3)
9. Unvarying dress (7)
10. A current issue in a letter (5)
11. Tree, evidently of some antiquity (5)
12. Housing row (7)
13. Climbs and balances (6)
15. Doesn't sound it, but it's hot (6)
18. When an I.O.U. runs out it could well be (7)
20. A papal order to cause dismay (5)
22. Insist on having things just right (5)
23. Noisy new trio love us (7)
24. Unemployed jester who won't let anyone take him in (7,4)

Down

2. I am taken in by a fat Scottish landowner (5)
3. Southern company press for means of punishment (7)
4. A motto put out for the vegetarian (6)
5. A duck I'd always put out (5)
6. Not a sunny greeting (3,4)
7. Odd way in which the debtor finds himself (5,6)
8. One who thinks of things first? (11)
14. A stirring instruction to the player (7)
16. Intercept an order to execute? (4,3)
17. It swoops down on fish, so rises with its quarry (6)
19. Go beyond an alfresco celebration (5)
21. In short, a final result of a snap decision (5)



Quick Clues:

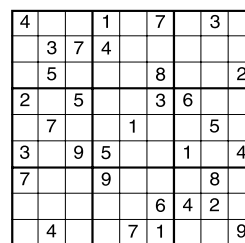
Across

1. Stormy (11)
9. Artist (7)
10. Earlier (5)
11. Fat (5)
12. White ant (7)
13. Pact (6)
15. Spent (6)
18. Disregard (7)
20. Evade (5)
22. Characteristic (5)
23. Mohammedan (7)
24. Warlike (11)

Down

2. The pick (5)
3. Long-suffering (7)
4. Elf (6)
5. Superior (5)
6. Use (7)
7. Favourable moment (11)
8. Impiety (11)
14. Etch (7)
16. Violinist (7)
17. Cord (6)
19. Praise (5)
21. Devil (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	7	9	1	3	6	4	2
3	6	4	2	9	7	5	8
2	8	1	5	4	7	9	3
6	1	5	3	4	9	2	7
4	9	2	7	8	5	3	1
7	3	8	6	2	1	9	5
8	4	6	9	5	3	1	2
9	2	7	8	1	6	4	3
1	5	3	4	7	2	8	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Straight; 5 Stud; 9 Once; 10 Interest; 11 Final; 12 Epitaph; 13 Under employed; 18 Rest-cure; 19 Toss; 20 Blemish; 21 Forge; 22 Date; 23 Progress. Down: 2 Tension; 3 Average; 4 Hunger-marcher; 6 Therapy; 7 Ditched; 8 Denial; 13 Unrobbed; 14 Descend; 15 Recoil; 16 Outdoor; 17 Ensigns. QUICK - Across: 1 Deletion; 5 Spin; 9 Wasp; 10 Striking; 11 Quiet; 12 Instant; 13 Senselessness; 18 Outright; 19 Step; 20 Fiction; 21 Grain; 22 Dusk; 23 Resemble. Down: 2 Erasure; 3 Express; 4 Outside chance; 6 Primate; 7 Negates; 8 Kisses; 13 Scoffed; 14 Notices; 15 Elicit; 16 Nostrum; 17 Special.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. On which date is St George's Day?
2. Of which island group is Jura a member?
3. Who painted A Bigger Splash in 1967?
4. Which disease is also called varicella?
5. Who founded the Grey Friars in 1209?
6. Which part of the body is affected by impetigo?
7. With which instrument is Fritz Kreisler associated?
8. Who played vet James Herriot in the TV series All Creatures Great and Small?
9. In which US state is Las Vegas?
10. In geometry, what do 60 minutes make?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Balliol; 2 Bruce Kent; 3 Russian; 4 Molière; 5 John Prescott; 6 Miklós Rózsa; 7 Lil Folk; 8 Jeremy Thorpe; 9 Kurt Vonnegut Jr; 10 James Baker.

Niner: REVOLTING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

3267
498825
127

gives a servant,
gives a vagrant,
gives a rotter.



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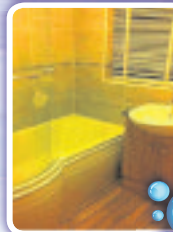
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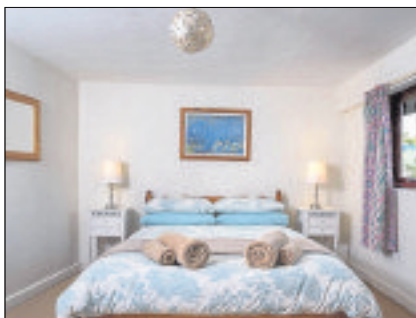
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The stunning interior offered all the home comforts from a bygone age



The tasteful cottage chic of the downstairs main bedroom



The Black Mountains – one of the glorious sights you won't find anywhere else



The Counting House, set into the hillside by the canal

Counting our blessings for such a superb stay in Brecon Beacons

By Graeme Andrew

AAH, the Brecon Beacons. Visions of beautiful barren mountains where only the most dedicated hikers and bikers go with their backpacks and hi-vis vests – right? Wrong! So wrong...

Never have I been so impressed with one particular area and all it has to offer. The pretty towns – even in February; the friendliness of people; and the stunning wildlife and scenery, even if you don't make it to the top of one of those mountains which are a constant backdrop.

Brecon Beacons Holiday Cottages was established 30 years ago by owner, Elizabeth Daniel who has grown the business and built a fantastic selection of unique properties for hire, be they barn conversions, stone cottages, manor houses, townhouses or quirky listed buildings.

With an emphasis on providing as much local knowledge of the area they are obvi-

ously so proud of, the team are always on hand to offer any tips and advice about what is going on around them. There is also network of local businesses and services which can be used at a discount, via various vouchers available.

We stayed at a stunning little cottage called the Counting House in the picturesque village of Talybont-on-Usk, with both the River Usk and the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal running through it.

Built partly on stilts, the Counting House dates back to 1814 situated at the end of the Brynorchard tramroad. It is therefore a grade II listed building, predominantly made of stone rubble, with a Welsh slate roof, and has various delightful features including gothic archways and upside down accommodation offering spectacular views over the canal and the Vale of Usk into the distance.

It has just been renovated and offers modern cons you would expect from any cottage in any

part of the country – just don't expect the internet and mobile phone service you are used to! My wife and I unwittingly shared these out. My phone could get texts and calls and she was able to log onto her email account!

A first morning walk along the canal was just the ticket for getting some of that fine country air into our lungs, with a gentle undulating session carried on in one of the fine hostels Talybont had to offer. We plumped for the White Hart Inn. Truth be told, it was the nearest to our cottage, so not too far for us to stagger back afterwards! But the roaring open fire, lovely Rhymney's ale and fine food certainly won us over.

We had days out in Abergavenny and Brecon, each with their own attractions, and each with a stunning mountain as a backdrop – Sugar Loaf and Pen Y Fan, respectively.

Abergavenny is steeped in ancient history and there is plenty to keep the enthusiast interested, but for me the Linda Vista Gardens, with its collection of all sorts of trees, was

fascinating – the London Plane, never heard of it, but my goodness, it is an awesome sight.

Brecon has real character and a military feel, across the years, with links to the Zulu Wars, among many others. The cathedral is truly imposing, both inside and out, and there is a lovely walk which takes you down to the water's edge where the Honddu and Usk rivers meet.

We also managed to take in Tretower Castle and Court, which is a quirky stop-off and again something for the history enthusiast.

We came away from our stay in Brecon Beacons realising that we had only scratched the surface. A comfortable two-hour drive away, with something to offer the visitor across all seasons, one day we will make it to the top of one of those mountains and wonder at the beauty of one of Britain's most unsung national parks. But when it's a bit warmer!

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Traditional family home with parking



FOR sale through Redstones and priced at £125,000, this traditional three-bedroomed semi in Harrowby Place, Willemhall comes with gardens, off-road parking and a carport.

It has a timber porch, reception hall with stairs off and an under-stairs cupboard.

The lounge has a feature fireplace with a bay window, a dining room with patio doors opening to the rear garden, a kitchen with matching wall, base and draw units, a four-ring gas hob, electric oven, extractor fan and a door opening to the carport. Upstairs bedroom one overlooks the front, while bedrooms two and three overlook the rear.

The modern bathroom has a low level WC, panelled bath with an electric shower over, a pedestal wash hand basin and tiled surrounds.

Outside, to the front is a lawned garden with borders and off-road parking.

While to the rear is a patio and lawned garden.

Contact Redstones on 01922 235350 or visit www.redstones.co.uk



Four bedroom home with feature fireplace

THIS four-bedroomed detached in St Catharines Close, Walsall is for sale through Edwards Moore at £315,000.

Situated on a modern estate just off the Broadway, and with gas fired central heating and double glazing, it has a porch and a reception hall with understairs storage.

There is also a guest WC, a lounge with a feature brick built fireplace and a dining room with French doors opening to a conservatory. The breakfast kitchen, with a door opening to the side, has a door into the garage. Bedroom one comes with an en suite shower room, there are three further bedrooms and a part tiled bathroom.

Contact Edwards Moore on 01922 615222 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk



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Three-bed property in a cul-de-sac with no chain



A THREE-BEDROOMED semi on a cul-de-sac in Watson Road, Fordhouses, Wolverhampton is for sale through Skitts at £135,000 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has driveway parking, an entrance hall with wooden flooring and stairs off, a lounge with a feature fireplace and a door opening out to the garden and sliding doors to a dining room with a feature fireplace and bay window, a kitchen with tiled splashbacks, space for appliances and a door to the garden, three bedrooms (two with storage cupboards), a bathroom and rear garden.

For further information contact Skitts on 01902 788188 or visit www.skitts.net



Link detached has open plan kitchen

A LINK detached three-bedroomed ideal family home in Bellamy Lane, Wolverhampton is bright and spacious and in a popular area.

It is for sale through Your Move at offers over £160,000.

It has a lounge, large open plan kitchen/diner and a utility to the ground floor and three good-sized bedrooms and a modern family bathroom.

There is double glazing and gas central heating, ample off road parking to the front and a large lawned garden to the rear.

The internal condition is exceptional and, with a large open plan kitchen diner, perfect for modern living.

For further information contact Your Move on 01902 305665 or visit www.your-move.co.uk



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Property Auction

Monday 14th March 2016

7pm Prompt at

THE PREMIER SUITE, BAR SPORT

1st Floor The Danilo, High Green, Cannock

Address	Wednesday 24 th February 2 ^{pm} & 9 ^{pm} March	Saturday 20 th & 27 th February 5 ^{pm} & 12 ^{pm} March
189 Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton	10.30 am	10.30 am
6 Clarence Road, Bilston	10.45 am	10.45 am
524 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley	11.45 pm	11.45 pm
Rose Cottage, 73 Heath Gap Road, Cannock	12.30 pm	12.30 pm
Building Plot Adjoining Horseshair Cottage, 90 Bellbrook, Penkridge	1.15 pm	1.15 pm
174 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley	2.15 pm	2.15 pm
Building Plot Known As Pillaton Farm Cattery, Pillaton, Stafford		
Pasture Land Fronting Rugeley Road, Chase Terrace, Burnwood		
Land Adj. 26 Brownhills Road, Redfern Caves		
Land Rear Of 314 Cemetery Road, Cannock		
Building Plot Adj. 3 Hunters Ride, Stafford		

BY CALLING AT SITE WITH AUCTION CATALOGUE TO HAND

Tel: 01543 505454
www.bootandson.co.uk

LOT 1

8 CLARENCE ROAD, BILSTON, WV14 6NZ
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ In need of comprehensive renovation
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

GUIDE PRICE £60,000-£80,000

LOT 2

ROSE COTTAGE, 73 HEATH GAP ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 6DS
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Detached house
- ◆ Requires comprehensive refurbishment
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Part gas fired central heating (Not tested)
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating F (35)

GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£80,000

LOT 3

LAND ADJ. 29 BROWNHILLS ROAD, NORTON CANES, WS11 9SD

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Parcel of Freehold land
- ◆ Located with village of Norton Canes
- ◆ Potential for residential development (subject to planning permission being obtained)
- ◆ Currently with detached garage

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £80,000

LOT 4

LAND REAR OF 374 CEMETERY ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 4AY

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Good sized building plot in popular residential area
- ◆ Frontage 9.74m or thereabouts
- ◆ Depth 32.00m or thereabouts
- ◆ Area 312 m² of thereabouts

GUIDE PRICE £38,000+

LOT 5

BUILDING PLOT ADJ. 3 HUNTERS RIDE, STAFFORD, ST17 9HU

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Building plot having Planning Permission for erection of one three bedroomed detached house
- ◆ Width at building line - 7.2m (23ft 7ins) Approx
- ◆ Maximum depth - 32m (104ft 11ins) Approx
- ◆ Area - 240m (287 sq yards) or thereabouts

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000

LOT 6

BUILDING PLOT ADJ. 3 HUNTERS RIDE, STAFFORD, ST17 9HU

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ An outstanding individual building plot
- ◆ Having benefit of planning permission for single residential property
- ◆ Total plot area 0.66 of an acre or thereabouts
- ◆ Located in rural greenbelt position
- ◆ Ripe for early development

GUIDE PRICE £200,000-£250,000

LOT 7

189 GOLDTHORN HILL, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV2 4QB
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Substantial end terraced house
- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Conservatory/sun lounge
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Convenient for Wolverhampton City Centre
- ◆ EPC rating E (52)

GUIDE PRICE £125,000+

LOT 8

PASTURE LAND FRONTING RUGELEY ROAD, CHASE TERRACE, BURNWOOD, WS15 4RX

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Irregular shaped parcel of pasture land
- ◆ Extending to 1.71 Acres or thereabouts and having a frontage to Redmoor Brook in the North
- ◆ Conveniently located for access to Gentleshaw Common

GUIDE PRICE £10,000

LOT 9

BUILDING PLOT ADJ. HORSEFAIR COTTAGE, 90 BELLBROOK, PENKridge, ST19 5DL

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Rare opportunity to acquire a good sized individual building plot
- ◆ Planning permission for erection of one 3/4 bedroomed detached residence
- ◆ Occupying elevated position
- ◆ Located in conservation area of Penkridge

GUIDE PRICE £150,000-£175,000

LOT 10

CHERRITON, 524 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY, WS6 6HX
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Detached bungalow
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ In need of refurbishment
- ◆ Larger gardens
- ◆ EPC rating F (26)

GUIDE PRICE £160,000-£170,000

LOT 11

174 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY, WS6 6NQ
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Detached house occupying prominent corner plot
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating (Not tested)
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (70)

GUIDE PRICE £190,000-£210,000

We Value Your Home



WILLENHALL LAKELOT CLOSE

- An Impressive Taylor Wimpey 4 Bedrooms Recently Built Detached
- Hall, Guests Wc
- Lounge, Dining Room



- Excellent Breakfast Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- En-suite Shower Room
- Garage & Driveway • Gardens

Offers over £215,000



WILLENHALL BANKS STREET

- Superb Impeccably Presented Four Bedrooms Period Semi Detached
- Hall Two Reception Rooms
- Impressive Kitchen



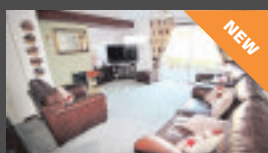
- Utility With Wc, Gym/study • Bathroom
- Pleasant Rear Gardens
- Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing

£210,000



SUMMER HAYES FARBROOK WAY

- Extended 3 Bedroom Modern Link Detached
- Dining Kitchen, Spacious Lounge
- Study, Utility With Wc
- Re-fitted Bathroom



- Block Paved Driveway
- Double Glazing (Where Specified)
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage, Pleasant Gardens

£185,000



WILLENHALL BILSTON LANE

- Large Period 3 Bedroom Detached Property With Extensive Large Rear Gardens, (Ideal For Development (STPP))
- Hall, Guests Wc, Lounge



- Spacious Dining Kitchen • Bathroom
- Majority Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Driveway, No Upward Chain

£170,000



WILLENHALL THE CRESCENT

- Spacious Modern Style Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory • No Chain
- Three Good Size Bedrooms



- Large Re-fitted Shower Room
- Pleasant Large Gardens
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

£139,950



WILLENHALL LUCKNOW ROAD

- Beautifully Maintained Traditional Semi Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Impressive Kitchen, Utility/wc
- Two Bedrooms, Superb Re-fitted Bathroom



- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating
- Large Gardens With Development Potential (Subject to planning permission)
- Excellent Drive, No Chain

£130,000



WILLENHALL SPINDLE TREE RISE

- Superb Three Storey Mid Terrace with No Chain
- Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating, Driveway, Rear Gardens

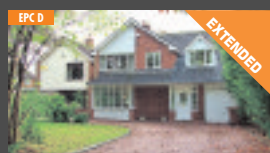
£145,000



HADLEY HEATH MARDEN CLOSE

- Modern Style Semi Detached On Large Plot
- Hall, Lounge, Re-fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Bathroom, Driveway
- Gas Central Heating System And Double Glazing

£129,950



ESSINGTON SNEYD LANE

- Superb Four Bedroom Detached with Garage
- Open plan lounge, dining room
- Family room • Refitted breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom • En-suite • D Glazing • Gas CH

£340,000



WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- Superb 5 Bedroom Detached On Popular Estate
- Hall With Guests Wc • Lounge, Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen • 3 En-suites • Bathroom
- Driveway • Gas CH • Double Glazing • Gardens

£265,000



NEW INVENTION ESSINGTON ROAD

- Traditional Bay Fronted Detached Occupying An Excellent Large Plot with No Chain
- Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Driveway And Double Garage

£200,000



WILLENHALL ROLLESBY DRIVE

- Greatly Improved 3 Bedroom Detached
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room • Conservatory, Kitchen
- Utility With Guests Wc • Shower Room
- Garage, Driveway, Gardens • Gas CH, Double Glaz

£184,950



SUMMER HAYES ROTHESAY WAY

- Stunning 3/4 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Wc/utility
- Double Bathroom, Tandem Garage
- Driveway, Delightful Landscaped Gardens

£177,000



SNEYD PARK BROCKERIDGE CLOSE

- Inexpensive 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Lounge • Dining Room • Extended Fitted Kitchen
- Garage & Driveway • Gas CH • Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens • No Chain

£155,000



WILLENHALL ROEBUCK GLADE

- Spacious 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge • Dining Kitchen
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Front And Rear Gardens, Garage, Driveway

£149,950



NEW INVENTION MENAI CLOSE

- Improved 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Hall, Through Lounge / Dining Room
- Re-fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Driveway, Gardens

£134,950 NEAR SANDRINGHAM AV



NEW INVENTION MOXHULL CLOSE

- Much Improved 3 Bed End Town House
- Spacious Dining Kitchen • Lounge, Downstairs Wc
- Bathroom, rear Garden • Outside Building/ Gym
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

£112,995



WILLENHALL VAUGHAN ROAD

- Improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property
- Hall, Lounge • Re-fitted Kitchen, Utility
- Re-fitted Bathroom • Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating • Large Gardens

£110,000



WILLENHALL BRICK KILN STREET

- Well Presented Semi Detached Property
- Lounge, Large Kitchen, G Floor Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing • Driveway, Rear Gardens

OFFERS OVER £100,000



WILLENHALL NEWLANDS CLOSE

- First Floor Maisonette
- Hall, Lounge, Kitchen • Two Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Garage • No Upward Chain

£86,000

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Willenhall



KINGFISHER CT, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Modern First Floor Apartment Having Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, Gas C/H, Allocated Parking, Electric Gated Access.

£82,000



BORROW ST, WILLENHALL

Three Bedroom Semi Detached Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen With Integrated Oven & Hob, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom With Shower, UPVC D/G, Gas C/H & Off Road Parking.

£85,000



MILL LANE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed End Terrace Having Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner And Refitted Family Bathroom. The Property Also Benefits From G/C/H, UPVC D/G, Rear Garden And Parking. Ideal FTB Or BTL.

£87,500



ASTON ROAD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi Comprises Of Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, Side Extension, Gas Central Heating, Majority UPVC Double Glazing, Private Rear Garden And Driveway.

£92,000

SHORT HEATH



COLTHAM ROAD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Town House Having Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen And Modern Shower Room. The Property Benefits From UPVC D/G, G/C/H And Garden.

£95,000



ASTON RD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Extended End Town House Having Lounge, Dining Room, Ground Floor W.C., Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, Gas C/H, Garage, Driveway, Private Rear Garden. Ideal FTB Or BTL.

£104,995

QUEENS LEA



SHEPHERDS DR, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi Detached Having Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Driveway & Private Rear Garden.

£119,995

WILLENHALL



SHEPPELL GREEN, W-HALL

Three Bed Semi Detached Property Having Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Lounge Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking And A Private Garden.

£134,995

WILLENHALL



BEECH RD, WILLENHALL

Extended Three Bed Semi Detached Dornier Bungalow. 21ft Spacious Lounge/Diner, Breakfast Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, Gas C/H, Garage/ Workshop, Off Road Parking, Carport And Rear Garden.

£174,995

WILLENHALL



SOMERFORD PLACE, W-HALL

Spacious Three/ Four Bed Detached Property Having Entrance Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Generous Kitchen/ Diner, Shower Room, Cellar, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, G/C/H, Off Road Parking.

£184,995

MUST VIEW



CRAB LANE, WILLENHALL

Prestigious Extended Four Bed Detached Having Lounge, Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen, Conservatory, Utility, Galleried Landing, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Garage, Substantial Plot.

£365,000

ESSINGTON



SNEYD LANE, ESSINGTON

Substantial Three Bed Detached Bungalow Having Imposing Entrance Hall, 38ft Through Lounge, Impressive Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Utility, Study/Playroom, Two Bathrooms, D/G, C/H, Garage, Generous Plot.

£370,000

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Paul Marrion - Partner



Kathy Marrion - Partner

Energy Rating - D

NEW

SSTC Similar Required

Tennyson Road, Short Heath Willenhall

- Semi-Detached House
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- Side Storage Area, 3 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

£90,000

Energy Rating - D

NEW



Guild Avenue Walsall

- Semi detached house
- Gas central heating
- PVCu double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen
- Conservatory
- Shower Room/WC
- 3 Bedrooms
- Ample parking and gardens

£124,500

Energy Rating - C

NEW



Enville Close Turnberry

- Modern mid town house
- PVCu double glazed
- Electrically heated
- Lounge, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Allocated Parking
- Gardens

£126,950

Energy Rating - B

NEW



Allens Lane Pelsall

- Newly Renovated To High Standard
- Traditional Mid-Terraced House, PVCu Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Three Bedroom, En-Suite Shower Room
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Bathroom/WC
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

£149,950

Energy Rating - D

NEW



Silverstone Close, Bentley Walsall

- Link-Detached House
- PVCu double glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC
- Detached Garage, Driveway
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

£164,950

Energy Rating - E

NEW



Daisy Bank Close, High Heath Pelsall

- Cottage style detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen/dining room
- Conservatory, utility
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, driveway
- Gardens

£275,000

Energy Rating - B

NEW



Stafford Road Bloxwich

- Extended Detached Family Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Cloakroom, ,
- Conservatory, Six Bedrooms
- Three En-suites, Family Bathroom,
- Large Driveway, Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

£450,000

Energy Rating - F



King Charles Avenue Bentley

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen, utility
- 2 bedrooms
- Shower Room/WC
- Ample Parking
- Gardens

£94,950

Energy Rating - C



Hilton Close Bloxwich

- Beautifully Presented Mid Town House
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory,
- Bathroom with Separate Shower Cubicle
- PVCu Double Glazed
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden.

£110,000

Energy Rating - D



Ashley Road Bloxwich

- Semi Detached House
- Gas centrally heated
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Conveniently Located
- Bathroom/WC
- Block Paved Driveway
- Lawned Rear Garden

£115,000

Energy Rating - C



Woodend Farm, Sutton Road Walsall

- First Floor Retirement Apartment
- Double Glazed
- Gas under floor heating
- Lounge/Diner, Kitchen
- 1 bedroom, Shower Room
- Communal Lounge and Gardens
- Allocated and visitor Parking
- No Onward Chain

£125,000

Energy Rating - D



Fingerpost Drive Pelsall

- Detached bungalow
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, fitted kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, Gas centrally heated
- Over 55's
- Bathroom/WC
- Parking & Gardens
- No Onward Chain

£145,000

Energy Rating - E



Spring Road Sheffield

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- Double glazed
- 2 reception rooms, kitchen
- 5 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- 2 car garage
- Gardens
- Parking

£180,000

Energy Rating - D



Muirfield Close, Turnberry Bloxwich

- Detached bungalow
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, driveway
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Garden

£190,000

Energy Rating - E



Hobnook Road, Essington Wolverhampton

- Character Detached Cottage
- Enclosed Storm Porch
- Lounge, Sitting Area, Dining Area
- Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms, Shower Room
- Garage and a Large Rear Garden
- Potential to Extend (Subject to planning permission)
- Must Be Viewed

£289,950

Energy Rating - E



Gilly Avenue Walsall

- Individual Detached House
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.
- Three Bedrooms.
- Through Lounge/Diner, Kitchen.
- Down Stairs Shower Room, Cloakroom. Upstairs Bathroom
- Driveway
- Front & Rera Garden
- No Onward Chain

£344,950

Energy Rating - F



Lichfield Road, Bloxwich Walsall

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 3 reception rooms, kitchen
- 4 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Swimming Pool, gym
- Garage, driveway, gardens
- NO OWNARD CHAIN

£390,000



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Lichfield Road Sheffield



Offers around £172,500

A superb three bedroom detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This ideal family home further comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, guest W.C., three bedrooms, ensuite shower room, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and enclosed parking to the rear. Energy rating C.

Lord Street Walsall



Offers around £135,000

An extended and much improved 5 bedroom middle terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The lovely family home further comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, extended kitchen/utility room, five bedrooms, ensuite, family bathroom and rear garden. Energy rating D.

Harrowby Place Willenhall



Offers around £125,000

A three bedroom traditional semi detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property further comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens, off road parking and carport. Energy rating E.

Deans Place Walsall



Offers around £110,000

A well presented extended, 3 bedroom semi-detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, 3 good sized bedrooms, family bathroom, rear gardens and block paved driveway. Viewing essential. Energy rating E.

Wolverhampton Street Walsall



Offers around £105,000

Ideal for landlord or first time buyer is this luxury second floor two bedroom apartment in the sought after 'Smiths Flour Mill', approximately one mile from the M6 and within walking distance to Walsall town centre. The property further comprises, open plan modern living room/kitchen area with integrated appliances and a balcony, luxury appointed bathroom, two bedrooms, electric central heating, double glazing, video entry phone, allocated parking space and no upward chain. Energy rating C.

Water Reed Grove Bloxwich



Offers around £87,000

A superb modern two bedroom top floor apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall with intercom, lounge, modern fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, communal gardens and allocated parking space. Energy Rating C.

Marsh Street Walsall



Offers around £90,000

Located within the heart of Walsall and offering easy access to bus and train station is this one bedroom modern apartment. The property has a living area with access to own private balcony, modern fitted kitchen with integrated appliances and shower room. The apartment also benefits from no upward chain, entry phone, intruder alarm, under floor central heating and a lift within the block. Energy rating

Oxford Place Walsall



Offers around £78,500

●●●IDEAL FOR LANDLORD AS CURRENTLY LET OUT FOR £475PCM●●● A superb two bedroom first floor modern apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely apartment further comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted modern kitchen with integrated appliances, two bedrooms (master with en suite shower room), garage, family bathroom with shower from taps and garage. Energy rating C.



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www.redstones.co.uk/walsall/ for terms and conditions

Roebuck Road Walsall



Offers around £99,995

A three bedroom middle terrace family home in a popular location. This good size property comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, guest W.C., three bedrooms and family shower room. The property also benefits from no upward chain, gas central heating, part double glazing, front and rear gardens and off road parking. Energy rating D.



St. Michael Street Walsall



Offers around £27,500

●●●A 50% shared property ideal for the first time buyer.●●●ground floor flat having the benefit of no upward chain and part UPVC double glazing. The property further comprises, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, communal gardens and parking. Energy rating F.

Head Office

75 George street, Walsall
West Midlands WS1 1RA

Company No 05164020 VAT Registration No 945 2601 28

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SALES



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LETTINGS

Extended semi-detached has superb rural views



THIS extended semi in Chester Road, Stonnall, has superb views over countryside to the rear.

It is for sale through Skitts at £214,950.

It has an entrance hall with stairs off and under-stairs storage, a through lounge, French-style patio doors out to decking, a feature fireplace with a multifuel burner, a kitchen with an archway to a lobby, dining room, utility area, WC, three bedrooms and a bathroom with a white suite, a garden with lawn and seating areas, barbecue and garage. Contact Skitts on 01922 478104 or visit www.skitts.net



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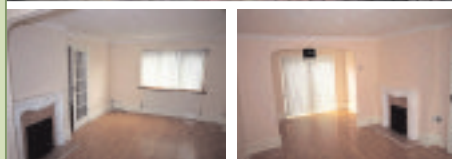
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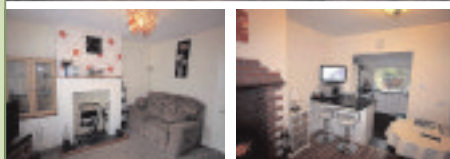
Goodchilds
 Estate Agents & Lettings



Ravenscroft Road, Willenhall

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Popular Pool Hayes Estate
- Entrance Hall
- Through Lounge
- Kitchen
- Side Entrance/Utility
- Bathroom Walk in Shower
- Rear Garden & Timber Decking
- Front Drive with Off Road Parking
- Sorry No DHSS Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £550



Lucknow Road, Willenhall

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden
- Double Glazing
- Utility Area
- Dining Area
- Sorry No DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £550



LET

Broadway, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Lounge with Balcony
- Fitted Kitchen Area
- Family Bathroom

Monthly Rental Of £695



LET

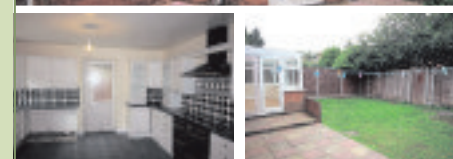
Dalby Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Entrance Porch/Hall
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen/Utility
- Downstairs W.C.
- Master Bedroom with En-suite

Monthly Rental Of £625



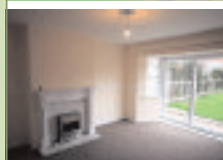
NEW



Fountains Road, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom End of Terrace
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Large Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Conservatory
- Ensuite Shower Room
- Rear Garde
- DHSS Accepted

£550 PCM



Cresswell Crescent, Bloxwich

- THREE Bedroomed Terraced
- Front Reception Room
- Lounge with French Doors
- Bathroom with Separate Shower Cubical
- Double Glazing
- New Gas Central Heating
- Front & Rear Garden
- Viewings Highly Recommended
- Call Today!
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £495



Netley Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Popular Mossley Estate
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Side Entry
- Family Bathroom / Separate WC
- Front & Rear Gardens
- DHSS Accepted
- Re-decorated and New Flooring Throughout

Monthly Rental Of £495



LET

Somerfield Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Terrace
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Downstairs W.C.
- En-Suite Bathroom

Monthly Rental Of £595

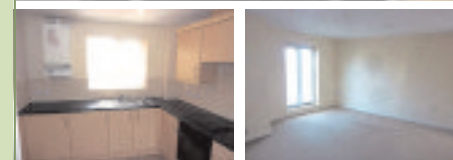


LET

Jane Lane Close, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid - Terraced
- Entrance Hallway
- Downstairs WC
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom

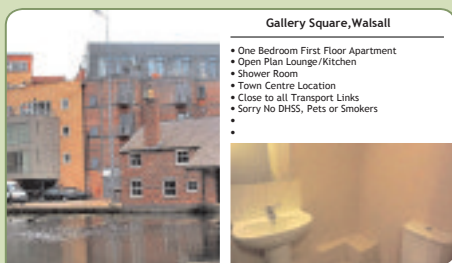
Monthly Rental Of £525



Walker Road, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge / Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower
- Allocated Parking
- G.C Heating
- D. Glazing
- Secure Entrance
- Close to Bloxwich High Street
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £450



Gallery Square, Walsall

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Town Centre Location
- Close to all Transport Links
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £400



The Exchange, Walsall

- First Floor One Bedroom Flat
- Above Retail Premises
- Bloxwich High Street Location
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Shower room
- No Pets
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £350



LET!

Lancaster Place, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- D. Glazing & G.C. Heating
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Kitchen/Utility
- DHSS Accepted
- Lounge

Monthly Rental Of £500



Harrison Street, Walsall

- One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing & Electric Heating
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £350

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Stroud Avenue, Willenhall

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hallway
- Large Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Built in Wardrobes to Master Bed
- Front Garden with Side Access
- Rear Landscaped Garden with Access to Garage
- Gas Central Heating

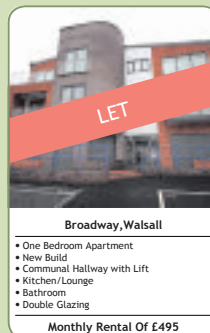
Monthly Rental Of £500



Borneo Street, Walsall

- Three Bedroom End of Terrace
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Family bathroom
- Front Garden Block paved
- Off Road Parking
- Extensive Rear Garden
- Sorry No DHSS or Pets

£525 PCM



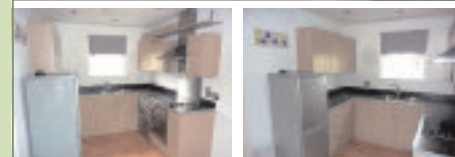
Broadway, Walsall

- One Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Kitchen/Lounge
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing

Monthly Rental Of £495



LET



York House, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- First Floor
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Master Bedroom/Ensuite
- Allocated Parking
- Intercom Access
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Sorry No DHSS
- Close to Walsall Town

Monthly Rental Of £500



High Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- Secure Communal Entrance
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge with French Doors
- Bathroom with Shower
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- Allocated Parking
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £430



Bridge Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Kitchen
- Lounge
- Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Town Centre Location
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
- No Referencing fees

Monthly Rental Of £415



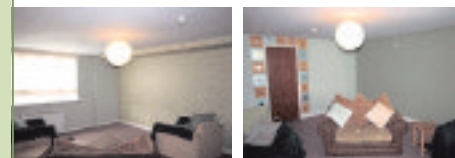
Kenilworth Crescent, Walsall

- Two Bedroom End Terraced Property
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge with Patio Doors
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Front and Rear Gardens

Monthly Rental Of £495



LET!



High Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Flat above Retail Premises
- Large Lounge
- Large Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted
- Close to Bloxwich High Street

Monthly Rental Of £400



Bridge Street, Walsall

- WALSALL TOWN CENTRE
- Spacious One Bed Apartment
- Separate Kitchen
- Secure Off Road Parking
- Bathroom With Shower over Bath
- Close to all transport links & amenities

Monthly Rental Of £350



Harrison Street, Walsall

- One Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating and Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £325



West Bromwich Road, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Through Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Under Stairs Storage
- Double Glazing

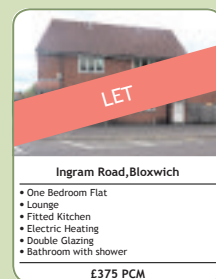
Monthly Rental Of £450



Foster Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Mid Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Gallery Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- DHSS Considered

Monthly Rental Of £400



Ingram Road, Bloxwich

- One Bedroom Flat
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Bathroom with shower

£375 PCM

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Hilary Drive, Aldridge

- Semi Detached Family Home
- Popular Aldridge Location
- Modern Kitchen
- Large Lounge
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Large rear Garden
- Front Driveway
- Cul-de-sac Location
- Sorry No Dhss

Monthly Rental Of £625



LET!

High Street, Brownhills

- Immaculate Modern Apartment
- Canalside Views
- Large Lounge
- Kitchen With Appliances
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Gated Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £575



LET!

Church Way, High Heath

- Two Bedroom
- Semi Detached
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom

Monthly Rental Of £500



High Ridge Close, Aldridge

- Terraced House
- Two Double Bedroom
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Easily Maintained Back Garden
- Entrance Hallway
- Sorry No Dhss

Monthly Rental Of £550



LET!

Stewart Road, Walsall Wood

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Off Road Parking
- Kitchen with Utility
- Lounge
- Large rear Garden
- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

Monthly Rental Of £525



LET!

Wyre Close, Walsall Wood

- Two bedroom end
- Part gas central heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Communal Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £500

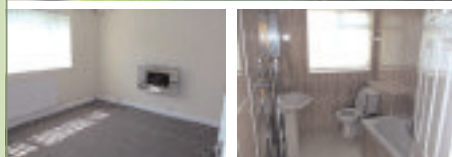


LET!

Lingmoor Grove, Aldridge

- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom, Shower Over Bath
- Allocated Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Walking Distance From Town Centre

£495



Springhill Close, Shelfield

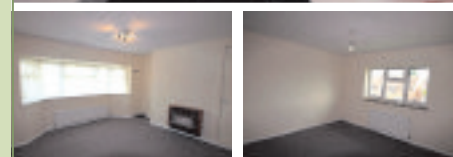
- Ground Floor One Bedroom Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Communal Garden
- Communal Parking
- Communal Hallway
- Sorry No Dhss

Monthly Rental Of £395

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Bonner Grove, Aldridge

- Immaculate Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Close to Public Transport
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Communal Gardens
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475



LET!

Hillside Close, Walsall Wood

- Two Bedroom 1st Floor Maisonette
- Own Stairs & Landing
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Pleasant Rear Garden

Monthly Rental Of £425

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EPC: D

HARDEN CLOSE, WALSALL

- . Maisonette
- . Lounge / Dining room
- . Kitchen, Bathroom
- . Two Bedrooms
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . Garage

£395 pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

BLOXWICH ROAD, WALSALL

- . Mid-Terraced House
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge
- . Dining Room
- . Kitchen, Bathroom
- . Garage To Rear

£495pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

VICTORIA STREET, WILLENHALL

- . Mid Terrace House
- . Two Double Bedrooms
- . Two Reception Rooms
- . Kitchen & Bathroom
- . GCH & UPVC DG
- . ONE MONTH RENT FREE PERIOD

£495pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

WESTON STREET, WALSALL

- . Refurbished End Terrace
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge & Dining Room
- . Refurbished Bathroom & Kitchen
- . Appliances
- . UPVC DG & GCH

£525pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

WILLOW AVENUE, WEDNESFIELD

- . Semi-Detached House
- . Reception Hallway
- . Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Driveway

£545pcm - plus fees



TBC

BIRMINGHAM ROAD, WALSALL

- . Double Fronted House
- . Two Reception Rooms
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Breakfast Room
- . Kitchen & Bathroom
- . Parking & GCH

£550pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

CHATSWORTH CLOSE, WILLENHALL

- . Semi-Detached House
- . Lounge, Conservatory
- . Breakfast Kitchen
- . Four Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . Driveway, Garage

£575pcm - plus fees



TBC

PARK AVENUE, ROWLEY REGIS

- . Re-furnished
- . Semi-Detached House
- . Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Bathroom, GCH, UPVC DG
- . Front & Rear Gardens

£625pcm - plus fees

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AUCTION - 22ND MARCH 2016



33 FORTON CLOSE, COMPTON, WOLVERHAMPTON

Uniquely designed large modern Detached, Hall, 21ft Lounge, First Floor Dining Room / Lounge (18ft), balcony, fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, spacious Bathroom, Gas CH., Utility Room / Workshop, Car Port, pleasant Gardens. EPC = E51

Guide: £185,000 / £195,000

VIEWING:

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 11th & 12th MARCH @ 12.00 noon



20 GLYME DRIVE, TETTENHALL.

Detached Bungalow in prominent corner position, Double Glazing, CH., Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Car Port, Rear Garden. EPC = D63

Guide: £138,000 / £143,000

NOTE: Planning Permission granted for creation of Four 1 bed Flats.

VIEWING:

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 11th & 12th MARCH @ 11.45 a.m.



1 CHURCHFIELD AVENUE, TIPTON

Spacious 3 bedroom, 1st and Ground Floor Double Glazing, Hall, 15ft Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., allocated Parking. EPC = TBA

SOLD PRIOR

Guide: £28,000 / £33,000



15 LOWBRIDGE WALK, BILSTON

Access via Windsor Street.

Impressive Ground Floor Flat, immaculately presented, Hall, magnificent 21ft Living Area with fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, en-suite & large Bathroom, allocated Parking space within gated grounds. EPC = C71

Guide: £93,000 / £98,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
11th & 12th MARCH @ 11.00 a.m.



80 FOWLER STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON

Mid Terraced, Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Rear Hall, Shower Room & Separate Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Rear Verandah, long Garden. EPC = E53

Guide: £69,000 / £74,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
11th & 12th MARCH @ 9.45 a.m.



95 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Well presented Ground Floor Flat. Communal entrance, Hall, Lounge, well proportioned Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, smart white Bathroom. Garage. EPC = D58

Guide: £55,000 / £60,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
11th & 12th MARCH @ 10.45 a.m.



5 RICHMOND MEWS, MERRIDALE ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Close to City Centre - well located Ground Floor Flat within select small block. Hall,

Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, Gas CH., Garage, attractive Rear Garden. EPC = D67.

Guide: £64,000 / £69,000.

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
11th & 12th MARCH @ 12.45 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Viewings are at the times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule.

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Blakenall Lane
Walsall

NEW

Benefiting From Gas Central Heating And Double Glazing, The Property Comprises Of: Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs Shower Room, Three Bedrooms And Family Bathroom. The Property Further Benefits From Sated Block Paved Driveway To Front, And Large Rear Garden. Viewings Highly Advised. 01902 633323

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000

Whitehouse Crescent
Wednesfield

NEW

A three bedroom semi detached family home with the benefit of double glazing (where specified) and gas central heating. The property further comprises, reception hall, lounge with feature fireplace, open plan kitchen dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom with shower, separate WC, front and rear gardens. Viewings 01902 633323

OFFERS AROUND: £120,000

Regent Street
Willenhall

NEW

FULLY REFURBISHED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS NOT TO BE MISSED Lounge, Sitting Room, Feature Dining Area, Large Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom, Two Large Bedrooms And Enclosed Rear Garden. Viewings Are Highly Advised To Appreciate The Quality And Size Of This Family Home NO CHAIN! Call 01902 633323

OFFERS AROUND: £105,000

Lawrence Street
Willenhall

SOLD

SOLD IN TWO WEEKS! CALL 01902 633 323 FOR YOUR FREE VALUATION!

OFFERS AROUND: £102,500

Martin Grove
Walsall

An EXECUTIVE SIX/SEVEN BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE SITUATED IN THE POPULAR VILLAGE OF GREAT WYLEY WHIST OFFERING SPACIOUS CONTEMPORARY STYLE ACCOMMODATION THROUGHOUT. Occupying a choice position within a private development the property offers excellent access to a host of local amenities & transport links.

OFFERS AROUND: £480,000

Main Street
Walsall

RARE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT Character 2 bedroom Grade 2 Listed cottage with extending garden in the desirable location of Stonnall.

Potential to extend subject to planning permission currently, kitchen, 2 reception rooms, 2/3 bedrooms, bathroom, central heating and double glazing, call Paul Dubberley for more details, 01922 441100.

OFFERS AROUND: £400,000

Bradleys Lane
Bilston

NEW

NEW Immaculate and refurbished 3 bedroom traditional detached house, entrance porch and hallway, lounge, beautiful kitchen/diner, conservatory, downstairs wc, modern bathroom, central heating and double glazing, garage and driveway, front and rear gardens, no upward chain, call Paul Dubberley to view.

OFFERS AROUND: £225,000

Ambleside Close
Bilston

NEW

Great starter home or investment 2 Bedroom terraced house with lounge, modern kitchen, modern bathroom, electric heating and double glazing, driveway and rear garden, early viewing recommended.

OFFERS AROUND: £90,000

Bailey Road
Bilston

SOLD

This Semi Detached home which has the benefit of a brand new Kitchen and Bathroom briefly comprises, Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, First floor landing, Three bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and rear Garden.

£125,000

Sidcup Close
Bilston

SOLD

This Modern Detached property which has been recently updated to a very good standard is located on the Sedgemoor Park Estate. The property briefly comprises, Hall, Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen, Downstairs Cloakroom, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and Rear Garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF: £225,000

Broad Street
Bilston

A Fantastic 3 bed extended detached house with gas central heating & double glazing. The property is within walking distance of Bilston town, the metro and main bus routes. The property briefly comprises, porch, hallway, lounge, lounge / dining room, kitchen, utility room, guest cloakroom, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden, off road parking and garage.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £155,000

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Well Presented Modern End of Terrace close to all local amenities and transport links. Benefiting from UPVC Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating and briefly comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Front Driveway providing off road parking for two cars and Rear Garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £100,000

Moorcroft
Bilston

Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Second Reception Room/Third Bedroom, Family Bathroom, Side Verandah, Part Converted Loft Room (Not Inspected). The Property Further Benefits From Pleasant Rear Garden And Driveway To Front. VIEWINGS ADVISED.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £125,000

Pickwick Place
Bilston

A well presented 2 bedroom first floor flat. The property, which benefits UPVC double glazing, is located in a quiet cul-de-sac location. The property property briefly comprises: reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom and enclosed rear garden. Communal parking is available with the dwelling.

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF: £70,000

Merstone Close
Bilston

A One bedroom ground floor flat with a potential rental yield of 8.5% briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom. No upward chain.

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF: £60,000

Ashtree Grove
Bilston

A traditional semi detached family home which is located in a popular position. The spacious accommodation comprises lounge, dining room, kitchen with side verandah, three bedrooms, modern bathroom and rear garden. The property also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. Note we hold a mining report for this property.

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF: £100,000

Hardon Road
Wolverhampton

Well Presented Mid Terrace in a popular location close to all local amenities and transport links. UPVC Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating Briefly Comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen with Integrated White Goods, Guest WC, Three Bedrooms, En suite shower room to master, Family Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens. Secure Rear Parking. EPC - C

OFFERS AROUND: £155,000

Clarks Lane
Willenhall

The property is UPVC Double glazed, Gas Centrally Heated, and comprises of: Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, open dining area leading to impressive EXTENDED KITCHEN with integrated appliances, Downstairs WC, Three bedrooms and modern family bathroom. The property further benefits from a driveway to the fore giving off road parking, garage and enclosed garden to rear.

OFFERS AROUND: £160,000

Essington Way
Wolverhampton

NEW PRICE

A three storey end townhouse property offering NO CHAIN! The property offers generous accommodation comprising of: entrance hallway, guest WC and ground floor bedroom. First floor is a large kitchen diner and living room, and to the second floor there are two further bedrooms, both with en suites. The property further benefits from a driveway to the fore giving off road parking, garage and enclosed garden to rear.

OFFERS AROUND: £129,950

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Set to be an SUV leader

By Graham Breeze

Kia is quickly emerging as a front-runner in the small SUV class and the arrival of the fourth generation Sportage will push company sales closer to the top.

The third generation model was Kia's best seller in the UK and was a huge improvement on its predecessor – the latest arrival takes those improvements a stage further and you'll be seeing a lot more of this Sportage.

Sportage already had a lot going for it but Kia has built on those strengths to improve on efficiency, CO2 levels, connectivity levels and technology advances to step up the game against rivals Nissan Qashqai, Mazda CX-5, Hyundai Tucson and the Ford Kuga.

There are now four engines with five power outputs and three transmissions with the introduction of a 1.6-litre T-GDI unit and a 7DCT (seven-speed dual-clutch automatic) gearbox, both of which are reserved exclusively for GT-Line.

They join extensively re-engineered 1.6-litre GDI petrol and 1.7 and 2.0-litre turbodiesel power units with improved fuel economy and CO2 reductions of up to 29g/km, which means significantly lower company car tax for the Sportage's loyal business drivers.

Fleet buyers are predicted to snap up 60 per cent of Sportage sales and they will love this new Kia, particularly the 1.7CRDi manual, which I found to be the pick of the range on a driving exercise in the mountains of southern France.

It's little wonder that the 1.7-litre CRDi is preferred by more than half of all Sportage buyers and the new model is now more than 7mpg

more fuel-efficient in combined mode, while its CO2 output falls by 16g/km to 119g/km.

You get a top speed of 109mph with the 1.7 along with 0-60mph in 11.1seconds and average fuel consumption of over 60mpg.

There is a reduction in CO2 of 29g/km for the lower-powered (134bhp) 2.0-litre CRDi engine with automatic transmission, while with the higher-powered (182bhp) version of the same engine with automatic transmission the reduction is 23g/km.

Six-speed manual gearboxes are fitted to every model, but the 2.0-litre diesels are available with a six-speed torque converter automatic which is a standard feature on the First Edition).

Stability

Intelligent all-wheel-drive is standard on 1.6-litre T-GDI and 2.0-litre CRDi versions. It normally delivers 100 per cent of engine torque to the front wheels, but this can be re-distributed up to a maximum of 60:40 front-to-rear to enhance cornering stability or if road conditions deteriorate. For off-road driving, owners can manually select lock mode, which gives a 50:50 torque split at speeds of up to 25mph.

The system is now linked to advanced traction cornering control, which monitors road speed, throttle input and steering angle and distributes torque between the left and right wheels to maximise cornering stability.

A number of other electronic features increase safety such as electronic stability control (ESC) and vehicle stability management (VSM) counteracting any understeer or oversteer.

The new Sportage is 40mm longer than its predecessor, with a 30mm greater wheelbase but unchanged width and height – dimensions which make it look even more lithe and sporty while lowering its co-efficient of drag (Cd) from



0.35 to 0.33 – helping to lower fuel consumption and emissions.

There are improvements inside the cabin too where the lack of visible instruments is the most striking feature on modes from grade-2 upwards thanks to a 7 or 8inch touchscreen system containing all the technology we have come to expect from quality manufacturers.

Visibility is improved thanks to a taller tailgate, narrower pillars and lower door mirrors while there is more room inside the five-seat cabin thanks to the wider wheelbase. Boot capacity, with the spare tyre in place, has risen

by 26 litres with all seats in use at 491 litres, or 1,480 litres when they are folded down.

It's disappointing that the rear seats still don't fold completely flat, something that always annoys me when carrying bigger loads, but it's only a small irritation.

In the UK the Sportage is already Kia's best-selling model, claiming close to 29 per cent of the company's sales thanks in a big way to the company's unique seven-year or 100,000-mile warranty.

You also get Kia's Care-3 and Care-3 Plus servicing packages, offering retail customers

fixed-cost, inflation-proof servicing for the first three or five years. And the added bonus is that both warranty and servicing packages are fully transferrable should you sell the vehicle on.

The Sportage is also a very safe car to drive, receiving a five-star rating from Euro NCAP and praise for levels of passenger protection.

The new Sportage scores highly all-round. It's an easy and comfortable car to drive, sits well and handles firmly on mountainous roads and is set to be a leader in the small SUV sector sales this year.

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Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA Rapid Spaceback range for this offer in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 45.6 (6.2) to 67.3 (4.2); Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2) to 83.1 (3.4); Combined 57.7 (4.9) to 78.5 (3.6). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA Rapid Spaceback range for this offer are 114 to 94 g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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Style, design, technology

The most spacious and versatile vehicle in the SEAT line-up celebrates its anniversary with a special edition.

The first-generation SEAT Alhambra was presented 20 years ago – and quickly developed to become a successful model for family, hobbies and leisure, as well as for business and fleet customers.

Nowadays, the dynamic MPV for active people counts among its strengths maximum variability, state-of-the-art technologies and assistance systems, powerful and efficient drives and universal connectivity. Added to that – in true SEAT fashion – is exceptionally high quality and perfection combined with excellent value-for-money.

The new SEAT Alhambra 20th anniversary special edition unites unique design features with an extensive package of technologies. The edition is immediately

recognisable by its 17-inch alloy wheels in high-gloss black, which are complemented perfectly by the xenon headlamps, the tinted side and rear windows and the large panorama glass sliding roof. The interior is defined by distinctive, dark Alcantara upholstery with stitching in light corn silk. Those seated in the first row of the Alhambra 20th anniversary edition benefit from sports seats with massage function.

The technology package is equally extensive. Keyless entry opens the door to one of the most innovative vehicles in this segment – and even the tailgate can be operated hands-free by foot gesture. Like the tailgate, the two sliding doors also open and close electrically.

The comprehensive package of safety and assistance systems includes the Lane Assist lane-departure warning system, Blind Spot Detection, traffic sign recognition and the light assistant. Likewise on board is the SEAT navigation system with the optional



Maximum variability, state-of-the-art technology and assistance systems, powerful and efficient drives and universal connectivity

Full Link smartphone connection for perfect connectivity.

SEAT is the only company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets cars in Spain. A member of the Volkswagen Group, the multinational has its headquarters in Barcelona, exporting more than 80 per cent of its vehicles, and is present in over 75 countries. In 2015 SEAT achieved worldwide sales of 400,000 units, the highest figure since 2007.

SEAT Group employs more than 14,000 at its three production centres – Barcelona, El Prat de Llobregat and Martorell, where

it manufactures the successful Ibiza and Leon. Additionally, the company produces the Alhambra in Portugal, the Mii in Slovakia and the Toledo in the Czech Republic.

The multinational has a technical centre, which operates as a knowledge hub that brings together 1,000 engineers who are the driving force behind innovation for Spain's largest industrial investor in R&D. In line with its declared commitment to environmental protection, SEAT undertakes and bases its activity on sustainability, namely the reduction of CO2 emissions and energy efficiency.

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expressandstar.com/drivetime

Ibiza can prove to be a bit of a bargain

By Ian Donaldson

CLOSE your eyes and you could be driving a Volkswagen or an Audi ... or a Skoda, come to that.

There's the same slick precision about the way everything works; the result of sinking billions of euros in development costs in budgets decided long before the VW Group's recent woes raised their expensive heads.

Now open your eyes (best do it soon if the car is moving) and you'll discover the badge reads SEAT, from the Spanish outpost of the world's biggest – or second biggest – car maker.

That means it's supposed to slip into a VW Group portfolio where Audi equals posh, Volkswagen is solidly middle class, Skoda is all about value (not cheap prices any more) and SEAT has a touch of Latin zing.

Take the car tested here. It's the latest and mildly modified version of the popular Ibiza, uniquely offered in cars of this size as a three-door hatch (the SC), a more practical five-door or the ST, for Sports Tourer, or what you and I call an estate.

Prices start at precisely £10,000 and adding a couple of doors costs £450 but the boot space stays the same. Opt for the estate and it's a slightly longer car with a much bigger load area and a price hike of £1,150 over the three-door Ibiza.

The refreshed range looks much the same as before, with only LED driving lights on dearer models and a new choice of colours and alloy wheels to give the game away. Inside, there's a new steering wheel and new look dials and trim.

Looker

So, not much to talk about there, but the Ibiza always was a bit of a looker in a class where stodgy rules more strongly than smart.

Rather more happens in the bits that matter most, from new steering to refreshed range of eight engines, starting with a 75 horsepower three-cylinder petrol unit and topping out with 192 when the new 146mph Cupra version arrives.

No price for that yet, but the 1.2 litre CONNECT model on test costs £14,170 as a three-door SC. Diesels (with only a single 1.4 litre on offer in a class that is wildly tilted towards petrol) cost from £16,885 and come with a company tax efficient 95g/km rating and theoretical 78.5mpg average consumption.

SEAT is pushing the connectivity of this latest Ibiza, meaning that if you choose the right model, or add an upgrade, you can turn your car into a version of your smartphone. Indeed, go for a CONNECT trim level and there's a Samsung Galaxy A3 mobile phone as part of the package.

The car will talk to Android or Apple operating systems, letting you talk to the world with safety and ease, or listen to your favourite music. It will, with a new SEAT CONNECT App, let you monitor your heartbeat, but best not check moments after that idiot pulled out in front of you without looking.

The CONNECT version of this Ibiza revamp looks like the sweet spot of the range and comes pretty well loaded with kit. As well as the cleverness outlined above there is satellite navigation, DAB radio and a six speaker sound system with Bluetooth.

A pair of 1.0 litre petrol engines are available, one with a turbo and more power. Next up is the four-cylinder 1.2 litre of the car you see here, with more than useful performance on a mix of country roads, where the 43mpg shown at journey's end seemed about par for the course.

And with every inch covered this latest, mildly tweaked Ibiza displayed the crispness in response from steering, clutch, gearchange and brakes that mark it out as a member of the VW Group family.

Which makes it a bit of a bargain if you choose carefully.

TESTED

SEAT Ibiza SC CONNECT 1.2 TSI 90PS

Price: £14,170

Drivetrain: 1.2 litre 89bhp petrol engine, 5-speed gearbox

Performance: Top speed 114mph, 0-62mph 10.7 seconds

Economy: Euro average 56.7mpg CO2 116g/km road tax £0 first year, then £30

Safety: EuroNCAP 5 stars

Insurance: 13

Warranty: Three years or 60,000 miles



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Diesel version also available – ask for details



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- 2 x USB/HDMI connection
- 6 speakers
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- climate control dual auto a/c
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Refreshed and new model in i20 range

By Matt Joy

Hyundai's popular i20 hatchback has been refreshed for 2016 with a downsized petrol engine and a new model in the range.

Forget those fancy European brands you think you know; when it comes to making a solid private purchase, the Hyundai i20 is about as sensible as you can be – and that's a good thing. Smart, well-equipped, good value and offering a slick driving experience, it's hard to fault, but that hasn't stopped Hyundai giving the i20 an update for 2016.

Most importantly, it's now available with a brand-new three-cylinder turbocharged petrol engine, in two power outputs with impressive claims for fuel consumption and performance. Equipment upgrades have been made across the range while there's a whole new model too; the i20 Active is designed to be a compact crossover, with a 20mm increase in ride height, unique bumpers, roof rails and a rear spoiler.

The standard i20 is a neat and inoffensive piece of design, but in the new Active form, there's a little bit more going on. The extra detail in the front bumper gives the front end some additional presence, as does the increased ride height. It's not as distinct from its conventional sibling as some rival offerings, but it will snare some buyers that find the regular five-door too conventional.

Hyundai's image has also come a remarkable way in a matter of years. Its badge carries as much weight as many European rivals and in cars like the i20 and Santa Fe, it is producing cars with distinction.

Comfortable

There's no sheet metal changes for 2016, so the i20 keeps its exterior and interior dimensions. Those seated up front should find it easy to get comfortable. Although the seats aren't huge, they offer useful support and the low-set dashboard means the view out is good. In the rear, it's a little tighter for space with headroom at a premium for those near six feet tall, but legroom is good for the class as is the boot space.

While the Active model has suspension raised by 20mm, its effect on the i20's behaviour is minimal. The ride quality is good on the vast majority of surfaces, with only particularly poor surfaces creating significant intrusion into the cabin. On the flip side, the handling is safe and secure if unremarkable, but the steering is light and accurate plus the raised ride height doesn't make the i20 Active suddenly heel over in corners.

What really marks out the 2016 i20 however is that new powerplant. Three-cylinder turbo engines used to be the preserve of Japanese Kei cars but this Hyundai offering is a gem. The on-paper performance might seem modest, but this belies how perky it feels. It will rev quite happily without significant engine noise, but better still is the generous torque which allows you to be lazy with the gearshifts and still make good progress. Despite that, the official figures are impressive with 58.9mpg combined and 110g/km of CO₂, while the 120PS version feels no quicker on the road.

Go for the i20 Active model and you get 17-inch alloy wheels, LED daytime running lights, DAB radio and rear parking sensors for your £15,225, and this comes with the 100PS 1.0-litre turbo engine only. The regular i20 starts at £10,995 for the S model and even this comes with electrically adjusted and heated door mirrors, height adjustable driver's seat, reach and rake adjustable steering wheel and an MP3-compatible stereo with USB and auxiliary inputs. The top-spec Premium Nav SE with the top diesel engine is only £17,700, so the i20 is impressive value across the range.

If the i20 Active is big enough to suit your lifestyle then it makes an exceptionally strong case as a private purchase. It's excellent value for money whatever specification you choose, while the Active model not only combines the best engine choice but also adds in a little more ruggedness. It's an ideal first car while older folk will find the raised driving position a useful boon too. There are more sparkling drives in the class but for many drivers this is of lesser importance than value and equipment.

This car summed up in a single word: Surprising

If this car was a: movie, you'd be impressed beyond your expectations, but also tempted to keep it a secret.

TESTED

Hyundai i20 Active 1.0 100PS, £15,225

Engine: 1.0-litre petrol unit producing 99bhp and 126lb/ft of torque

Transmission: Five-speed manual gearbox driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 109mph, 0-62mph in 10.9 seconds

Economy: 58.9mpg combined

Emissions: 110g/km of CO₂



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- Day light running lamps
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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) - 78.5 (3.6), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 80.7 (3.5), Combined 32.1 (8.8) - 76.3 (3.7), CO₂ Emissions 231 - 84 g/km. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

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Latest XC90 ticks all the boxes for its £60,000 tag

By John Griffiths

There are any number of reasons for choosing a car (budget notwithstanding), from performance to luxury features and from space and practicality to economy.

So, if you have £60,000 to spend – and it seems a surprising number of people have – then Volvo's latest XC90 seems to tick all the boxes.

It's a spacious, luxuriously equipped seven seater and a technical tour de force, a showcase of things to come from Volvo which achieved record sales in 2015, and if the XC90 is a taste of the future then rival premium brands need to look to their laurels as Volvo uses the platform and the technology in other sectors of the executive express market.

The previously-launched twin turbo diesel and super-charged and turbo'd petrol versions of the XC90 have won Volvo sales and industry accolades: the new flagship is a petrol-electric hybrid which uses its two forms of propulsion not only to be the range's performance flagship (0 to 62mph in 5.7 seconds) but also to be economy king, saving thousands of pounds in tax, in particular for company car users. Volvo calls it a twin-engined car but it is almost a triple engine set-up: the starting point is a two litre, four cylinder petrol engine but it's supercharged to boost low level response and turbocharged to add power and torque further up the rev range. Then there's a powerful electric motor driving the rear wheels and supplementing performance.

So, in total, you have up to 407bhp and a whopping 640Nm of torque on tap when the two are working together. Hardly surprising this big car is so quick and responsive.

Official

The XC90 can, in theory, run for up to 27 miles on electric power alone, or it can be used in hybrid mode to assist the petrol engine's performance. It has an official 134.5mpg fuel economy and ultra low 49g/km of CO2 emissions.

What you actually achieve will depend on driving style and journey type. You could accomplish an average commuting trip without using any petrol at all, and therefore with zero emissions. Once the battery is flat and you're running on petrol only, around 30mpg is likely (although that is by no means outrageous for a big, seven-seat SUV).

You can choose between several modes, although the standard 'hybrid' switch position does perfectly well for most circumstances. In two of the options you get the full benefit of both propulsion systems – power, as it suggests, is for maximum performance while the All Wheel Drive position distributes the same power in a different way for maximum traction when the going gets slippery.

As with all hybrids, you do get some power back through a regenerative braking system as you're travelling. But Volvo has taken this a step further with a new position on the eight-speed automatic transmission: in B for Brake the power regeneration is optimised, while also adding extra braking effect through the electric motor if, for example, you're on a steep downhill stretch or towing a trailer.

While fuel efficiency is one thing, the area where hybrids come into their own is in wallet efficiency. For a start, you get £2,500 from the government just for buying one. Then there is lower road tax but the big winner is in terms of company car tax: for example in 2016/17 an XC90 hybrid driver will pay £1,891 while the driver of a similar, conventionally powered SUV will be stumping up more than £7,000.

The XC90's interior befits the car's premium status and price tag, and unusually that applies no matter where you sit inside it – rear or front. There are, of course, all the airbags and electronic safety aids you'd expect, but there are some new ones. Two are more world firsts for Volvo – 'run off road protection' and 'auto brake at junctions'. The City Safe feature includes pedestrian and cyclist detection capability with fully automatic braking if necessary.

The luxurious, leather and chrome clad interior is matched by the smooth power delivery thanks to the matching of the two propulsion systems and smooth eight-speed transmission. Ride quality is good and noise levels low.

The centre console is dominated by a colour touch screen control system, with connectivity. The XC90 comes in three trim levels and all are seven-seaters, with leather upholstery, the full range of safety systems, active LED headlights (which follow steering cues), a power-operated, hands-free tailgate, and two-zone climate control.

This flagship model's price is £64,250 (before the £2,500 grant) which is £14,000 more than the conventional diesel and £10,000 more than the petrol-only. But, to put that in context, you have to factor in the hybrid's tax-saving for company car drivers and that it has a significantly lower price tag than some of its more conventional competitors.

The standard diesel and petrol XC90s have, deservedly, won widespread acclaim but the hybrid is undoubtedly a major step forward – an example of how automotive technology is achieving greater efficiency without loss of driveability or comfort.



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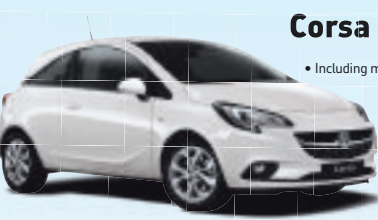
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- Cancellation On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by no later than the following deadlines: - Lineage, Semi Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10 am on the preceding Saturday. Classified Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication. Colour/Features - By no later than 10 clear days before the date of publication. To cancel Lineage, Semi Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317878. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.
- Rates Advertising rates are as laid out in the Company's current rate card which is available on request from the Company's offices. The rates may be varied from time to time in the Company's absolute discretion and without prior notification of the intended variation. The revised rate will be charged for any advertising ordered after the date of variation.
- All gross advertising rates except classified lineage and semi-display are subject to a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance levy payable by advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.
- Payment The Company reserves the right to require pre-payment as a condition of any advertisement being published. Where pre-payment is not required unless different credit terms have been agreed with the advertiser in writing payment must be made within 14 days of the date of issue of the Company's invoice. An additional £2.00 booking charge will be payable if the invoice is not paid in full within this 14 day period. Any additional credit facilities which are offered are at the Company's absolute discretion. The advertiser's liability shall be for the full amount of all advertising ordered and shall not be limited to the amount of any credit limit which the Company may impose. Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any query over an individual item within that account.
- Data Protection Act The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purposes of administering our accounts records and so that the Company may notify the advertiser of future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertisement with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.
- Applicable Law These conditions of acceptance shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

To advertise your business and reach more than 72,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01543 465341

2

E-mail us at...
sarah.winfield@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
**Sarah Jones, Walsall Chronicle,
Queen Square, Cannock. WS11 1ES**

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

Index

- 1 Family
- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
- 7 Jobs
- 8 Motoring
- 9 Local Information
- 10 Personals

Free Ads

IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

For items up to **£250**
VISIT:

bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

Simply press the free ad icon.
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.
Private advertisers only.

Place a paid for advert

By Phone 01902 317878
8.30am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri.
Closed Sat/Sun and Bank Holidays

Online
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

In person
At your local Express & Star Office.
Cancel/amend, call before 3.00pm
Monday - Friday for the next day's
advertisement or also before 3.00pm
Friday for Monday's advertisement.

funeral directors

Turn To Us For Help and Support

In your time of need we'll take care of all the funeral arrangements.

- Est. 1907
- 24 hour service

G. Gibbs
Funeral Directors

44 All Saints Way
West Bromwich B71 1PZ
0121 553 0442

 **Dignity**
Part of Dignity plc. A British Company.

1 Family

clothing - bridal

IVORY WEDDING DRESS. Size 14, with a small train at the back. Has been cleaned, bagged, ready to go! £350. 07753 197578

education & tuition

1-2-1 MATHS & SCIENCES Tuition by qualified local teachers. Primary to A-Level. From £10. Call: 01902 311950 / 07976 462204

elderly & disabled

ELECTRIC MOBILITY SCOOTER. Go-Go Elite, very good condition. Fits into any car boot. £250. Telephone 01522 405953.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01592 405397/07697 273617

2 Leisure Time

bikes

JACKSON-HATELEY CYCLES
www.jacksonhateleycycles.co.uk

MASSIVE STOCK CLEARANCE
ATB's up to 50% off
All cycles reduced across the range
All cycles built and guaranteed with a 24 hour repair service
All spares and accessories at discount price
Book Your Cycle Now For Easter At Sale Price!

HATELEY'S
Simply the best
Ring Dave on
01902 782344
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

car boot sales

SATURDAY BOOTSALE
NOW on A454, HILTON, WV15 5NR
By Wheel Pub, Between Wolverhampton & Bridgnorth
WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY BOOTSALE
Barracks Lane, Walsall Wood Lichfield, WS9 9DL
SUNDAY BOOTSALE
Only £3
Cocksparrow Lane, Cannock, WS12 4PB
07890 267041

caravans / motorhomes



Easter Caravan Breaks
from £180 P/W
Seasonal touring pitches
from £275 P/W
www.barkersleisure.com | 01976 810771



Caravans for sale
from £9,995
including 2016 site fees

CARAVANS & CHALETs For sale with seaviews, Clarch Bay near Aberystwyth from £4995 includes 2016 site fees. Call Phil on: 01970 820579. sales@clarchbay.com

LUNAR QUASAR 462 2011 2-berth. No smokers/pets, awning, motorhome, chassis wheel lock, fish, excellent condition. £7,500. **01562 822162.**

NEW FAMILY ADVENTURE for 2016? Caravans for sale! Seaview pitches! 12 month park with club/pool/softplay. North beach nr Aberystwyth. Call Cari 07837 489013.

STATIC CARAVANS for sale on Family seaside holiday park. Full 12 month season. Pet friendly. Stunning sea and mountain views. Call Paul on 07960 944721.

MUST BE SEEN ANYHST
STERLING ECCLES
2012, 6-Berth Caravan, twin axle, fixed bed, includes multi-room satellite system, all accessories, porch awning, CRIS Reg, stored inside, service history, immaculate condition. £13,500
Telephone: 07977 010527 or 01785 822114

MUST BE SEEN
caravans wanted

WANTED ALL CARAVANS
Any age or condition
Also motorhomes wanted.
TOP PRICES PAID
Immediate collection.
CALL THOMAS 07776373150

sports & leisure
LITTLETON BOWLS CLUB (CANNOCK)
Require players, new and experienced for Lichfield Leagues on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Also coaching is available for all ages.
Come and play on an award winning green.
Contact 07975 787870 for more details.

what's on

3 Home & Services

in your garden

A LANDSCAPING & GARDEN SERVICE
Fencing supplied & fitted.
Jungles cleared & restored.
Garden tidy-ups. New lawns laid.
Paving, Hedge Cutting, regular Garden Maintenance. Free estimates.
01902 683607 or 07939 634708

antique fairs

ANTIQUE COLLECTORS & VINTAGE FAIR
UTTOXETER RACECOURSE
(SAT NAV ST14 8BD)
VIA STAFFORD RD/A449 & B5013
SATURDAY/SUNDAY 12TH & 13TH MARCH
100 + STALLS INSIDE + OUTSIDE PITCHES
10AM - 4PM ADM.£1.50
CHILDREN FREE
PLENTY OF FREE PARKING
ANTIQUE FORUM
01782 393606 / 07921659798

AT C B SHEDS & FENCING We supply/fit. Free quotes. Supply sleepers & decking 01922 720270.

SAND, TOPSOIL, DECORATIVE gravels, 11 Tonne direct loads at cheap rates. D. Gill Building & Garden Supplies 01922 452221/452266 7 days.

SHEDS AND FENCING AT KNC. Visit our showyard at Willenhall Rd, WV11 3DZ. 01902 450137.

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED, only £1.76 inc. VAT.
Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

furniture

BFC FURNITURE
Open Everyday 10am-6pm
SAVE 50% DIRECT FROM FACTORY
OPEN SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM
Divan beds from £49. Mattresses from £29. Ortho mats from £69. Memory foam mats from £79. Metal fashion bed frames - singles £49, doubles £59. Bunk bed frames £99. Choose from our unrivalled stocks of Mobility Chairs in leather and fabric - many models to choose from up to 50% off! Fabric lift and tilt in leather. Was £899. **HALF PRICE £439**

BFC FACTORY OUTLET
CONVEYER ROAD IND EST, GREAT BRIDGE RD, TIPTON DY4 7RG.
VISA OFF A61 2 MINS FROM NEW TESCO & TORY CARVEY
0121 557 6885
BIG CHOICE OF DINING FURNITURE

BEIGE AND cream dralon suite, 3 seater, 2 seater plus chair, clean condition, buyer to collect, £150. 07584 425783.

CANNOCK EXCHANGE
Buy & sell quality used goods.
Car audio, Air Rides, TVs & Laptops, Bikes, Gold, Guitars & Amps, Group/Disco Gear etc. Try us! No Furniture.
186 Stafford Rd, Cannock, WS11 4AH
Open Tues to Sat 10.30am-6pm
01543 070900 Closed Sun & Mon

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

items wanted
All gold 9ct up to £300 per ounce
CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Jewellery • Watches • Costume Jewellery • Lladro • Old coins • Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings • All Silver • All Oriental Items
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
HOUSE CLEARANCES
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS, Antique guns, taxidermy, big bore guns, traps etc wanted. 07946 045938.

OLD PENS WANTED. Old pens wanted by collector, single items or collections bought, also spare parts wanted. Please call 07946 045938.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED FOR CASH three piece suites, up to £100 paid
Call 01785 815925/07947 627142.

kitchens & bathrooms

KITCHEN FOR SALE
Available early April.
All granite tops, beech doors including neff dishwasher, neff microwave / oven, peninsula and wall cupboards.
£1,800.
Call Chris on **07580 886112**

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts & TV setups.
07850 330251

pc's, laptops & accessories

CLIENT COMPUTERS

Certified technician & Microsoft partner.
Repair & maintain laptops and PCs. In West Midlands. Virus removal, broken screens, wifi.

Windows problems etc. Home visits or bring to me. Long established. Laptops available.

0121 556 9481

specialists at your service

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FROM £75
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE
Work Guaranteed
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857

AERIALS & CCTV SPECIALIST
• Digital Aerials & Sky
• TV Wall Mounts
• We repair any TV's
For free quote call **07850 330251**

A1 RAPID AERIALS Plasma fitting. Sky repairs, same day service, free call out, 3 yr g'tee, oap discounts 07960 173589 or 0800 633 5895.

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

appliance repairs

JP Builders
Over 20 years experience in bathroom & kitchen installations.
TILING/PLASTERING/FREE QUOTES
07883 339618 or 01543 458664

bathrooms

blinds

Made-to-measure BLINDS SALE
UP TO **50% OFF**
selected blinds & shutters
MEASURING & FITTING INCLUDED

ROMANS • ROLLERS • VENETIANS • VERTICALS • CURTAINS
SHUTTERS • AWNINGS • CONSERVATORY BLINDS
TO BOOK A FREE APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR LOCAL ADVISOR CALL **0800 111 4919**
OR VISIT **HILLARYS.CO.UK**

HILLARYS

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

carpet fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLs supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820596/07941 619694.

cctv

RAPID SECURITY CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, domestic and commercial, same day service, free call out. Call Robbi on 07960 173589/0800 633 5899.

double glazing

ATS DOUBLE GLAZING UPVC back doors from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. 01922 442720.

driveways & patios

DIAMOND DRIVES LTD
Block Paving - Patios - Driveways - Gravel - Tarmacadam - Tar & Chip - Landscaping
01902 470506/0800 7723852
www.diamonddrivesltd.co.uk

BESPOKE LANDSCAPING
Garden Design Service, Block Paving-Gravel & Patios, Tarmacadam, Walls-Gravel Gardens-Fencing-Sheds, Decking, Pergas, Grass Cutting, Turf & Artificial Turf.

07910 439803/07738 852488
82 Holyhead Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7PA

driveways/patio cleaning

LAWLEYS DRIVEWAY CLEANING
All drives & patios cleaned. Re-sanding/ sealed/ painted and much more. FREE QUOTES AVAILABLE
0121 679 0968 or 07947 365186

building supplies

RECLAIMED BRICKS, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, Bricks, Stone, Cawarden 01889 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

carpentry & joinery

Collins
• Kitchen and fitted wardrobe Specialists
• Doors, floors and staircases
• All plastering projects catered for
• Domestic and Commercial
• Refurbishments
www.collinscarpentryandjoinery.co.uk
0121 537 2437/07903 234 137

carpet & upholstery cleaning

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OAP discount. Recession Prices.
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building supplies

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double glazing

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driveways & patios

DIAMOND DRIVES LTD</

electrical services

ALL ELECTRICAL work from a switch to a rewire. Insured, free quote 01902 575570 / 07958 627434.
ALL HOME ELECTRICS NAPIT registered. Fully insured. For a free quote call 07583 320318.

MB ELECTRIC.CO.UK Home wiring specialist. NICEIC. High quality local service. Free phone: 0800 211 8398 / 07939 503905

SERTRONICS LTD Broken Electrical equipment Fixed. We repair most things with a plug. At home or bring it in to us. All major Brands 30 years experience 01922 624412

external rendering

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fencing



SPECIAL OFFER
 10 bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£695**
 Heavy duty panels supplied and fitted.
 6x6 H/D Treated panels **£15.95**
 6x6 Feather edge panels **£18.95**
 8 foot concrete posts **£8.95**
 12 inch x 6 foot gravel boards **£7.95**
 0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
 Mon - Fri 9am - 4.30pm **DELIVERY AVAILABLE**
 Sat 8am - 12noon
 83 Portway Rd, W'bury
 www.portwayfencing.com

fitted bedrooms

AFFORDABLE BESPOKE FITTED
 Sliding Wardrobes. 07813 675526
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gas fitting

GAS SERVICES

- Boilers
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- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

Fitted, Serviced and Repaired Same Day Service
 Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs
 Call: 01902 366855 / 07761 973975

READERS ARE ADVISED
 To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

AA HEATING & PLUMBING. All gas work. Install/Service/Repair. Free quotes call: 01922 660410

gates

ALL METAL GATES, RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.

DARLSTON FABS 30 years experience in supplying gates and railings. 07437 66752 / 07597 488250

handyman services

DAVIES INSTALLATIONS All aspects of building work, plumbing, decking, supply & fit kitchens and bathrooms. Call: 07793 747829

HANDY MAN - Most trades, plumbing, heating, gully ups & makeovers. Gutter clean no ladders, free quotes. 07850 559315.

home improvements

J J Davenport Plastering
 25 years experience. All work guaranteed. Free Quotation. No job too small!
 Tel: 07534 424420
 Email: JJdavenportplastering@outlook.com

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST CASH PRICE PAID
 for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. All rubbish removed. Carriers licence held. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

HARVEYS HOUSE CLEARANCES
 Quick, discreet and professional. 07939 421862 / 01902 410433

YMCA REQUIRE FURNITURE Free Collection. Telephone 01384 231714 for details.

A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE

Full, part and single rubbish removed.
 Garage and sheds cleared.
 Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.
01922 492007

kitchen fitters

THE KITCHEN FITTER Over 15 years experience. Call 07881 654757 or 01543 373233.

painters & decorators

C&D DECORATING City & Guilds / Wallpapering. Free quotes / OAP discount. 07973 286288.
M C I PAINTING & DECORATING Over 30 yrs experience. City & Guilds approved. Free Quotes. 07890 878 892 01902 385621
MFR DECORATORS. Internal/external. No job too small. Suitable prices. Free quotes. 07837 826372.

plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN. Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

BUILDING PLANS: Prepared/submitted. K J Bradley 01902 373248 07792 165767. www.plans4u.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL HAND ink detailed drawings prepared. 01922 684503 / 07730 888063.

plastering

MINT PLASTERING
 For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200.
 30 years experience.
 Free quotes. All work guaranteed
01922 606503 / 07519 694516

plumbing & heating

A RELIABLE PLUMBER No job too small. No call out fee. Call Leo: 07713 149278 / 01902 330351.

PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN
 No job too small or large. Call Will for a quote on: 07521 411108.

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
 Local Careful Firm
 Full or Part loads
 Call Don:
07749 941319

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

A2B REMOVALS Cheap and reliable removal service. 07817 842980 or 01902 744829.

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

DJ REMOVALS house or one item. Affordable rates, reliable. Call: 01902 652346 or 07912 980177.

FURNITURE REMOVALS We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Call Keith on 07867 862227.

MAN WITH VAN All areas covered. Guaranteed to beat any quote. Call James on 07943 884145.

roofing

ROOFING
 main, flat, felt, firestone rubber, fibreglass, all repointing, fascias, soffits, gutters. Free quotes. All quotes beaten. 8am-8pm. 01902 722447.

CLIFF NICHOLLS
 Roofing & Scaffolding Rubber Roofing
 All Roofing and Scaffolding Work carried out
 35 years experience
 Freephone
(0800) 220 - 729

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 338989 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

BLITZ SKIPS
AFFORDABLE SKIPS
2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE
PUNJABI SPEAKERS
MONDAY-SATURDAY 7AM-6PM
01902 870370
0121 517 1111

QUICKA SKIPS
 Mini, Midi, 6 Yard with doors and Builders.
 7 days - Prompt Service
01902 404800 / 07983 580884
www.quickaskips.co.uk

A absolute affordable skip RUSSELL SKIPS
 Mini, midi skips
 Prompt delivery / collection
(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

WOLVERHAMPTON SKIP HIRE
 MINI, MIDI & BUILDERS SKIPS WITH DOORS
 Established 26 years
 Call:
01902 722876

Waste management
SB
 Recycling services
01902 459667
0121 558 2120
01543 500 599

GOLDSHILL SKIPS
 Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:
0121 557 3346

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.
 Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

tree services

BUDGET TREE SURGERY Tall or small. Conifers & hedge trimming. Shrubs pruned, tidy ups & makeovers 01215053558 / 07936882552

upholstery

MR B'S UPHOLSTERY
 Re-Upholstering of Sofas, Dining Furniture, Caravans, Car Retrims and more.
www.mrbupholstery.co.uk
01543 506677
07738 851667

UPHOLSTERY SERVICES 3pcs/ springs/caravans/pubs/club/antiquities. 01902 689844 / 07817 842980.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
 All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.
 Call 01922 412212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk
 RGT Wolverhampton @RGTWolves

C.A.A.R.S. PET RESCUE
 Registered Charity
 PET RESCUE & BOARDING KENNELS FOR DOGS AND CATS
 Open Mon to Sun
 Call 01922 476208
 Red Lane off Crab Lane
 Essington WV11 2DZ

NOTICE TO READERS
 Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer.
 1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
 2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
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 MIDLAND NEWS ASSOCIATION
 51 - 53 QUEEN STREET
 WOLVERHAMPTON
 WV1 1ES
 E-MAIL: HR@MNMEDIA.CO.UK

Closing date: 18th March, 2016
 Previous applicants need not apply

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ROVER 216SLI 16V, 1995, immaculate, red metallic, 10 services, 2 owners, all extras, £565. 07771 428793.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposed development at:
38 Northgate, Walsall Wood, Walsall, West Midlands WS9 8BU

Take notice that application is being made by:
Massey Limited
Mr Nigel Massey

For planning permission to:
Description of proposed development

Removal of condition 7 and minor material amendment to approval 15/1257 for the erection of 5 new dwellings

Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted: Walsall Council

Local Planning Authority address: Development Management, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG

Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signed: Mr Neil Cox
Dated: 02-03-2016

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Kieran Holmes trading as K & T Construction (Midlands) Ltd., of 60 Winterley Lane, Rushall, Walsall WS4 1LR is applying for a licence to use College Farm, Bostly Lane, Walsall WS9 0LF as an operating centre for ONE goods vehicle and NIL trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

Dated: 11th March 2016

Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. **Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

16/0172 Kendrick Homes Ltd FOR: VARIATION OF CONDITION 2 OF PERMISSION 15/1123 (9 DWELLINGS) TO REPOSITION PLOT 1 TO AVOID SOAKAWAY ON ADJACENT CHURCH BUILDINGS. AT: THE RECTORY, 14, THE GREEN, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 8NH

15/1884 Mr Steve Gouldby FOR: PART DEMOLITION OF EXISTING REAR EXTENSION, TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND GLASS PORCH TO FRONT. AT: RUSHALL HALL LODGE, LEIGH ROAD, WALSALL, WALSALL, WS4 2DS

16/0264 Walsall Council FOR: OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS ON LAND AT THE LEA AND SWANNIES FIELD, INCLUDING PLAY AREAS, MUGA, TRIM TRAIL, SKATE PARK, FISHING PLATFORMS, FENCING AND TOWPATH WORKS. AT: ROSS FARM OPEN SPACE (SWANNIES FIELD) AND THE LEA OPEN SPACE, GOSCOTE LANE, BLOXWICH

16/0183 John Christoffersen FOR: TO RENDER THE LOWER HALF OF THE MAIN HOUSE THAT IS ON FAIRFIELD MOUNT (WEST ELEVATION). AT: 71, HIGHGATE ROAD, WALSALL, WS1 3JB

ORDER 1995 NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 6 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION.

Proposed development at 160 Broad Lane, Bloxwich, Walsall, WS3 2TQ.

Take notice that application is being made by Mr Simon Dorman for planning permission to

build a single storey rear extension. Application is made to Walsall MBC. Civic centre,

Darwall street, Walsall. WS1 1TP.

Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application

should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For confirmation of your requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
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For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal, whereas the Saturday Night option is for the evening performance (meal not included).

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Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Please note Star Reader Travel are unable to take bookings. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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Signing on under the eye of chairman John Ireland

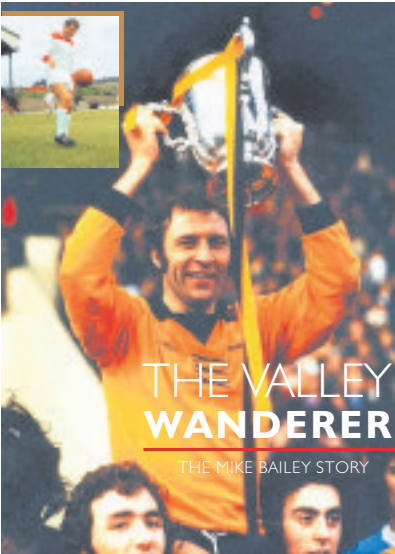


I still cannot believe that my hero Mike Bailey asked me to help with this book. I saw every one of Mike's home games for Wolves and a number of his away ones too. At first I was in awe of one of my boyhood heroes, the greatest captain of my beloved Wolverhampton Wanderers that I saw in action. But in the many meetings that I have had with Mike and his wife Barbara I have always been made to feel very welcome and completely at ease. Mike was a truly great to me but he is quite simply a lovely bloke who still doesn't fully appreciate how highly he is regarded by fans of all of his former clubs. Supporting Mike with this book has been a learning experience for me, finding out about his times at Charlton, Brighton and elsewhere, as well as the inside stories of his career at Molineux. However, it has been a privilege and a hugely enjoyable journey. Thanks for having me along Mike, you are a top man.

Clive has written two books on Wolverhampton Wanderers: These were the days (1964-1977) and Out of Darkness (1977-1990).



MIKE BAILEY
THE VALLEY WANDERER



Mike Bailey is a true son of Norfolk who turned his boyhood passion for football into an illustrious career spanning four decades. He started out at Charlton Athletic and made his first team debut in 1960. He quickly won the hearts of fans as an energetic and tough tackling midfield dynamo, and was very soon made their skipper. In 1964 Mike became the Valiants' first full England international for eleven years. A few months before England's 1966 World Cup triumph Mike signed for Wolverhampton Wanderers and in his first full season at Molineux led them back to the First Division. He was the talismanic leader who guided the swashbuckling Wolves team of the seventies to their best top flight finish to date, a first major trophy in 14 years and numerous European adventures.

In 1977 he went on to new challenges in Minneapolis in the North American Soccer League before returning home to try his hand at management. Mike set off with a short spell at Hereford United, and in the autumn of 1979 Mike returned to The Valley. He became Charlton manager the following year and launched them to promotion from Division 3. He was then persuaded to work under Mike Barber at Brighton and Hove Albion. Two seasons at the Goldstone Ground saw the Seagulls achieve their highest league position ever while Mike's team also made it to the 1983 FA Cup final. Although he later took on posts in Crete and the lower English leagues, he realised that there are more important things in life than football.

Mike now enjoys the tranquil life and the joys of his extended family in Surrey along with his wife Barbara. 'The Valley Wanderer' tells the story of a man who was fiercely competitive on the field, and still is on the golf course, but whose laid back disposition makes him highly well-liked by former team mates and opponents alike. Mike Bailey is a reassuringly down to earth man who is admired by all who meet him, whether they are celebrities or ordinary folk. The book is the gentle tale of a Norfolk boy who lived his dreams but always remembers his roots.



The Valley Wanderer, the Mike Bailey Story, is available to buy at £14.99 and charts the player's success with his two most well-known teams, Wolves and Charlton

50-year anniversary of golden great's signing

SPORTING MEMORIES

By Clive Corbett

The atmosphere was friendly but electric and he knew he wanted to play in games like this every week

Molineux which ended 2-2," he said. "Wolves led at half-time after Hughie McIlmoyle broke the deadlock, but Bailey was very much in evidence when he burst through to equalise.

"Ron Saunders – yes that Ron Saunders – missed a penalty but then put the Londoners ahead before Wolves levelled within two minutes thanks to a neat header from Ernie Hunt."

What really impressed Bailey was the Molineux crowd. He recalls how they really got behind the team. The atmosphere was friendly but electric and he knew he wanted to play in games like this every week.

It was at the end of February 1966 when Wolves and Charlton agreed terms for Bailey's transfer.

Wolves were playing Derby at the Baseball Ground and while the spoils were being shared, Bailey was

helping Charlton to a 2-1 win at Leyton Orient – it proved to be his last game for the Addicks.

Two days later, Monday February 28, the England international – Bailey won two caps against the US and Wales – was at Molineux and liked what he saw, agreeing to join Wolves for a fee of £40,000. A day earlier he had celebrated his 24th birthday and would prove an inspirational figure at Molineux.

Having had a look around and spoken with chairman John Ireland and boss Allen, Bailey was impressed, but really wanted some time to discuss things with his wife Barbara.

"She was working in London, had never been to the Midlands and would be away from her family, so it was a big decision for her as well," Bailey recalls.

"The deal was completed in the shortest possible time for I left London at 12 o'clock and was back at six having spent no more than half an hour completing the formalities at Molineux.

"I was sad to leave Charlton and I am always made very welcome at The Valley."

Within a period of a little over 12 months Bailey had succeeded the great Ron Flowers as captain and led Wolves back to Division One. In May 1967 he was named Evening Mail West Midlands Footballer of the Year.

As 'The Valley Wanderer' charts, Bailey was the talismanic leader who guided Wolves to their best top flight finish to date, a first major trophy in 14 years and numerous European adventures.

For a copy of the book email Clive Corbett at gpb-books@hotmail.co.uk



Wolves boss Ronnie Allen shows Bailey the way



Mike Bailey and his wife Barbara with Clive Corbett at the launch of the book



Bailey receives the 1967 Evening Mail West Midlands Footballer of the Year award

Sport

Celebrating 50 years since a golden great joined Wolves
See Page 51



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

Bannister's brace does the damage

Sporting Khalsa 5 Highgate United 2
CRAIG Bannister grabbed his 37th and 38th goals in all competitions with the decisive intervention as Khalsa moved up to third in the league.

Two goals in eight second half minutes, did the damage in what was a muddy slugfest between two of the division's heavyweights.

Simeon Townsend gave the home side the lead on five minutes, firing home on the counter attack through the legs of keeper Bradley Catlow.

Highgate were straight on the response, Curvin Ellis hitting the post after linking up with Brendan Murphy.

The equaliser came on 12 minutes, Aaron Brown heading past Mihai Gherasim after a free-kick caused havoc in the box.

Highgate went ahead on 25 minutes, Murphy firing a great effort high past Gherasim after some fine work by Ellis in the danger zone.

Khalsa equalised on 36, the persistence of Marvin Nisbett seeing him fire home after a frantic spell of defending.

It was Nisbett who did the damage in the early stages of the second half as Khalsa took the lead for a second time.

His pass to Bannister saw the prolific strike fire a drive past Catlow from just outside the penalty area.

Bannister then grabbed what will go down as Khalsa's goal of the season, picking the ball up on the wing, drifting past two players and curling a shot from the corner of the area over Catlow and into the net.

Dave Meese wrapped up the scoring on 80 minutes, lashing home from a corner to put the game beyond reach.

Gherasim pulled off a fine save in the dying stages to deny Lei Brown and give Khalsa a win which will be very welcome at the Aspray Arena.

Lockmen pay for their mistakes as Casuals take spoils

Willenhall Town 2 Casuals 4
THE Lockmen were made to pay for their mistakes as Wolverhampton Casuals claimed the West Midlands League Premier Division spoils.

Chris Milliard had two early chances for the home side before Mark Habbershaw fired just wide and ex-Red Ian Boswell headed over for the visitors.

Mikey Robertson sent in a fine cross on 29 minutes which saw Kieron Robinson's shot blocked for a corner.

When the corner came in, the first effort was blocked before the loose ball ran for Matt Dorgan and he finished with a crisp low strike to put the Lockmen one up.

Jay Holdcroft netted the equaliser a minute into stoppage-time.

Casuals took the lead on 56 minutes when a woeful headed back-pass dropped to Habbershaw and he coolly lobbed home.

Holdcroft increased Casuals' advantage before Hewitt curled home a fine effort to make it 3-2 on 86 minutes.

The visitors had the last word as Craig Radford poked home on 88 minutes.

History as ladies celebrate promotion



The promoted ladies' second team

Bloxwich Men's 1st XI 11 Bromsgrove 1

BLOXWICH inflicted a heavy beating on a weakened Bromsgrove side at Sneyd. The visitors' young side was almost unrecognisable to the one that had beaten Bloxwich 5-1.

Some excellent passing by the Barbarians led to the opening goal from Gary Williams, with Matt Whitehouse scoring a deflected short corner and captain Eddie Marrocco getting his first of the season in the first half. Jake Perkins also scored.

Bloxwich were ruthless in the second half. Marrocco got another three goals, while coach Steve Mallows scored and Perkins completed a hat-trick.

Hockey

Harry Robinson added another to his tally. The Barbarians have two games left and with top of the league losing away, the dream of promotion may still become a reality.

The ladies' seconds have won promotion, however, clinching the Staffordshire Division 2 League with two two games still to go – the first time club history that the second team has been promoted to division 1. The ladies 1st team are also sitting top of Division 1 with two games to play.

Duggan at double but Morris is off

Rushall Olympic 2 Hyde United 0
OLYMPIC made it three wins in seven days with an Evo-Stik Premier Division victory over Hyde United at Dales Lane – despite finishing the match with 10 men.

Two second-half strikes from Jack Duggan sealed the win before Pics defender Kieran Morris saw red late in the contest.

The Pics almost took the lead in fortunate fashion when Jake Heath's corner nearly crept in unaided at the back post.

Zak Martin had a glorious chance to put the hosts in front when he picked up the ball 10 yards from goal, but fired over on the half turn.

Josh McKenzie couldn't quite get his head over the ball as another Heath corner was flicked on as the sides went in 0-0 at half-time.

Just seconds after the restart, Heath combined with Mitchell Tolley to put the latter through on goal, but the midfielder could only scoop his effort over.

Heath crossed in for Alex Reid to try his luck, but the winger volleyed over with his weaker right foot.

However, after 59 minutes, the pressure finally told. Heath swung in another corner, Martin headed the ball towards goal and Jack Duggan was there to make sure the ball had enough on it to beat Sam Vince.

The second goal arrived just two minutes later, Tolley floated over a free-kick and Vince was caught in no man's land as Duggan nodded over him and into the net.

One final opening fell to Duggan but, after his shot was blocked, his centre-back partner Kieran Morris could only fire the rebound over the bar. While Morris was on the floor he reacted to an incident with a visiting player, resulting in a second yellow card and his marching orders.

Parting of ways for Cooksey and Villa

PELSALL Villa have parted company with manager Scott Cooksey following a run of poor results.

Former chairman Shaun Mason and Darren Phillips have stepped into the hot seat.

The former Hednesford keeper's final two games in charge saw Villa go down 2-1 to high-flying Leicester Road, Nathan Stone on target, followed by a 3-3 draw against another side in the higher echelons, Hinckley.

Villa had trailed 2-0, but went in front thanks to goals from Spencer Blackham (2) and Jordan Kent, until Hinckley snatched a late equaliser.

The Chronicle, a Midlands News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Kitley, Telford, Thursday, March 10, 2016

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WHITNEY IS PUT IN DRIVING SEAT

JON Whitney has been given a chance to stake a claim to become the next permanent manager of Walsall, following the sacking of Sean O'Driscoll.

The 45-year-old has been placed in charge of first team affairs with immediate effect and will be assisted by coaches John Ward and Neil Cutler – all three affectionately known as the 'three wise men'.

O'Driscoll, aged 58, was sacked just 11 weeks into his tenure, overseeing just 16 games before being dismissed by the Walsall board on Sunday.

The decision was made following Walsall's 3-1 loss to League One rivals Barnsley – a match which extended the Saddlers winless run to six games. But while results have been disappointing, it is understood O'Driscoll was moved on due to his poor relationship with the club's staff and players.

"The players' performances over the past month have not gained the points they deserved," Wolverhampton-born O'Driscoll said in a statement.

"The players deserve enormous credit for adapting, finding different ways to play and maintaining their performance levels even, at times, in the face of frustration and disappointment."

Initially the man fans wanted, O'Driscoll was hired as Walsall boss after Dean Smith opted to move to Championship outfit Brentford in December. O'Driscoll won promotion with Doncaster and Bournemouth.

But supporters showed their frustration with how he was running the team on Saturday, with O'Driscoll later expressing his disappointment at the hostility he faced from the home crowd.

Prior to the sacking, Walsall's board had a reputation as one of the most patient in the Football League with Smith the fourth longest serving manager in the country before his departure.

But in this instance, club bosses felt they had to act. "On behalf of the board we thank Sean for his time, effort and dedication during his short spell at the club and wish him well for the future," chief executive Stefan Gamble said in a short statement.

Boss bows out as Barnsley win



Number nine Tom Bradshaw, left, scores for Walsall to draw level in the first half

Walsall 1 Barnsley 3

IT was a game that, at one stage, promised so much. But now Barnsley's trip to the Banks's Stadium will forever be remembered for just one reason. This was the clash that saw Walsall call time on their brief affiliation with boss Sean O'Driscoll.

The Saddlers dominated the opening stages, twice coming close to taking the lead – first with a fierce cross-cum-shot by Sawyers. Then with a delicious Anthony Forde free-kick which cannoned off the post. But, true to form, Barnsley went ahead with their first shot on target. It was a fabulous goal, with Manchester United

loanee Ash Fletcher tricking his way into the box before firing past Neil Etheridge.

And yet, despite the setback, Walsall didn't let their heads drop. They continued to play in a positive way and, through Bradshaw, got back on terms. It had been an impressive first-half display with Sawyers key to it all. But after the interval everything changed. Barnsley flew out of the blocks and had already enjoyed a sustained spell of possession before retaking the lead through Josh Brownhill's 25-yard strike.

Then for Barnsley's third, Sawyers gave the ball away not once, but twice, prompting a swift counter which saw Harry Chapman race past Paul Downing too easily and fire into the net.



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